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Souvenir Poster Inside
Socceroos v Serbia

Matildas' captain Melissa Barbieri and Servet Uzunlar in preparation for the Women's World Cup in Germany on Saturday.
Photo: NO APOLOGIES REQUIRED

## Women's World Cup: The Final Countdown

# WAVE OF OPTIMISM!

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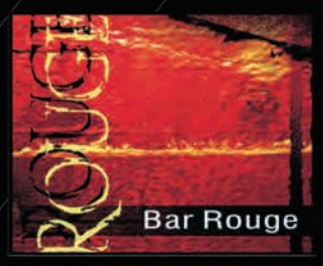


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# Matildas hit Locals for Six

By Ashley Morrison in Germany

**Matildas coach Tom Sermanni was happy with his team's first match work out against a select team from the Gottingen region, where the team is based in the lead up to their opening game at the Women's World Cup against Brazil on 29 June.**

The Matildas came away as 6-1 victors against the local opposition. The game which was played with interchange saw 16 of the Matildas take the park, Lisa de Vanna, Kyah Simon, Caitlin Ford, Heather Garriock and Teigan Allen all sat out the game having picked up minor niggles during the first two training sessions.

The game was played at the Jahnstadion, which is the home ground of Gottingen who play in the fifth tier of German football, and the atmosphere was the kind that would do the A league proud. It was intimate friendly and almost carnival- like. A much bigger crowd than had originally been expected made their way to the ground and played their part in making it an extremely entertaining evening.

The Matildas opened the scoring in the 19th minute when Emily van Egmond fired home after the Gottingen goalkeeper had missed a cross from the right.

Gottingen to their credit on a couple of occasions stretched the Matildas' defence, and in the 25th minute they leveled.

Caroline Muller, received a diagonal pass from the right and bore down on Casey Dumont's goal. The Brisbane Roar 'keeper dived and got a hand to her shot but it was rolling towards the back of the net. Servet Uzunlar managed to divert it away from the goal line but realized that it was falling into the path of Lisa Konig. She closed Konig down, and both players met the ball at the same time and fell to the ground. Konig was first to react and while on the ground swept the ball into the empty net.

Immediately the Matildas stepped up a gear and they had restored their lead within a minute. Tameka Butt sweeping home Leena Khamis' pull back.

Sally Shipard, Emily van Egmond and Colette McCallum were dominating the midfield. Tameka Butt was working tirelessly and she picked up two more goals before half time to complete her hat-trick and take Australia in at half time with a 4-1 lead.

Tom Sermanni kept ringing the changes as the game allowed for interchange. He gave all of those available a run and tinkered with both formations and different personnel in different positions.

Five minutes into the second half Leena Khamis stretched the team's lead. Receiving the ball from van Egmond, she cut inside her defender and placed her shot wide of the keeper, it was a quality finish.

Gottingen goalkeeper Dana Morick was the reason their lead was not extended until the 64th minute as she continually thwarted the rampant Matildas, one double save was truly remarkable and will no doubt live long in her memory.

The Matildas did claim a sixth through Clare Polkinghorne who tapped home after Butt had set her up from just six metres out.

When the final whistle sounded the local fans swarmed onto the pitch and the team to their credit stayed behind for over half an hour posing for photographs and signing autographs.

They will return to the stadium on Monday night to take on the Mexican team, and it will be interesting to see whom the locals support then.

***Ashley Morrison is in Germany filming a documentary on the two Indigenous players in the Matildas, Kyah Simon and Lydia Williams, called "No Apologies." You can follow him on Facebook or at www.noapologiesrequired.com***

Matilda Leena Khamis completes her cross during the scartch match at Germany's fifth tier team, Gottingen. Photo: NO APOLOGIES REQUIRED

## Matildas Mission

The Westfield Matildas left for Germany on June 14 to play in two training matches against Mexico (June 20 - Gottingen) and England (June 23 - Wolfsburg) prior to their first match against Brazil on June 29 (June 30, 2.15am AEST SBS ONE), before playing Equatorial Guinea on July 3 (10pm AEST SBS TWO) and Norway on July 6 (July 7, 2am AEST SBS ONE).

**Westfield Matildas FIFA Women's World Cup 2011 squad**

| Player/Caps/Goals/Age/Club | | |
|---|---|---|
| **1.Melissa Barbieri** *Melbourne Victory* | **76 (0)** | **31** |
| **2.Teigen Allen** *Sydney FC* | **7 (0)** | **17** |
| **3.Kim Carroll** *Brisbane Roar* | **38 (2)** | **23** |
| **4.Clare Polkinghorne** *Brisbane Roar* | **43 (2)** | **22** |
| **5.Laura Alleway** *Brisbane Roar* | **2 (0)** | **21** |
| **6.Ellyse Perry** *Canberra United* | **13 (2)** | **20** |
| **7.Heather Garriock** *Sydney FC/LdB Malmo* | **119 (20)** | **28** |
| **8.Elise Kellond-Knight** *Brisbane Roar* | **19 (0)** | **20** |
| **9.Caitlin Foord** *Sydney FC* | **1 (1)** | **16** |
| **10.Servet Uzunlar** *Sydney FC* | **20 (1)** | **21** |
| **11.Lisa De Vanna** *Brisbane Roar/magicJack* | **65 (24)** | **26** |
| **12.Emily van Egmond** *Canberra United* | **3 (0)** | **17** |
| **13.Tameka Butt** *Brisbane Roar* | **19 (1)** | **19** |
| **14.Collette McCallum** *Perth Glory* | **62 (9)** | **25** |
| **15.Sally Shipard** *Canberra United* | **52 (3)** | **25** |
| **16.Lauren Colthorpe** *Brisbane Roar* | **49 (6)** | **25** |
| **17.Kyah Simon** *Sydney FC* | **24 (4)** | **19** |
| **18.Lydia Williams** *Canberra United* | **24 (0)** | **23** |
| **19.Leena Khamis** *Sydney FC* | **16 (4)** | **24** |
| **20.Samantha Kerr** *Perth Glory* | **13 (3)** | **17** |
| **21.Casey Dumont** *Brisbane Roar* | **0 (0)** | **19** |

**Head Coach:** Tom Sermanni
**Assistant coach:** Spencer Prior
**GK coach:** Paul Jones
**Doctor:** James Ilic
**Physiotherapist:** Kate Beerworth
**Assistant physio:** Lauren Cramer
**Kit manager:** Robert Bird
**Team Manager:** Jo Fernandes

**Matildas Dress to Impress**

The Matildas will compete in the 2011 FIFA Women's World Cup dressed exclusively by Australian style icon Carla Zampatti – a first for the AFC Women's Asian Cup winning team.

As an avid football follower and fan, Carla Zampatti was the perfect choice to dress the Westfield Matildas and her stylish skirt, pant, camisole and jacket design in black and cream will set the team apart as they arrived in Germany to compete in this month's FIFA Women's World Cup.

# The world game's fight for facilities

By Peter Kokotis

**Community football (soccer) clubs across Victoria are set to benefit from a share in $645,000 worth of funding courtesy of the Victorian Coalition Government's 'Strengthening the World Game' program.**

Making the announcement last week at Colchester Reserve, home of the Boronia Junior Soccer Club, Minister of Sport and Recreation Hugh Delahunty said the club was one of several to benefit from the latest round of funding.

"As elite clubs and international competitions wrap up their seasons, the Victorian Government is proud to ramp up its support for soccer at a grass roots level," Delahunty said.

"This funding boost will help local soccer clubs like Boronia accommodate the growing numbers of community members keen to pick up where their heroes have left off and get out on to their local parks, join a club and have a kick.

Delahunty said the Victorian Government's $645,000 boost is on top of a community benefit package recently announced as part of the international friendly between Serbia and the Socceroos at Etihad Stadium on June 7.

"The initiative will be delivered through Football Federation Victoria and will build on an existing grassroots football program aimed at increasing support for volunteers and creating more coaching and officiating opportunities."

Minister Deluhanty with the Socceroos during the lead up to the international friendly against Serbia last week. Photo: BEFEKIR KEBEDE

Most of the $645,000 is going to lighting projects and the other key issue is access to pitches and maximising the use of the pitches by improving the quality which would then increase usage. Synthetic pitches extract 50 hours per week compared to 20 hours for a turf pitch.

The $3.8 million World Game project is a third of the way through and whilst this is positive news, the obvious question the Victorian football community is asking is, "Is this enough?" It is no secret soccer is rapidly growing, but an independent survey conducted by Sports Business Partners and commissioned by the FFV revealed that over 5000 players were turned away from clubs across Victoria in 2010.

With several clubs bursting at the seams, it is vital that facilities match the demand. There is also a 40 per cent growth in female participation following the trend in the USA over the last 10 years. Recently elected Football Federation Victoria (FFV) president Nick Monteleone stressed the challenges ahead.

"We've been on an upward spiral the last four years so it's important to continue that. But it's also very important to put energy and resources into coaching and referee development as well."

The State Government is keen to work with local government for access to facilities and with the Football Federations to deliver these promises. Regarding elite players Victoria has also found it very challenging to produce the next Mark Viduka. Victorian Premier Ted Ballieu is known to be very keen to have more Victorians in our national sides and in elite representative squads such as the AIS for youth players. In the last few years Victorian success has been poor in these areas and it is strictly not good enough for the sports capital of Australia.

It is now up to the clubs individually and collectively to ensure and monitor the FFV is engaging and pushing the rights of our game in a strategic, politically effective manner as there is an extremely competitive fight for the resource dollar with so many competing codes. Demand from football clubs, private academies, schools and the general public have our facilities stretched to the limit.

The days of grabbing your mates and rolling up to parks for a kick at any time are over unfortunately. We didn't know what we had back in the good old days.

*Article courtesy 'Neos Kosmos' - Australia's largest selling Greek newspaper*

# Victory earn their stripes

**Melbourne Victory joined some of the biggest football clubs on the planet by signing a 5-year apparel deal with global sports giants, adidas.**

**The partnership will see Melbourne Victory play in the world renowned 'three-stripes' until at least the end of the 2015/16 Hyundai A-League season, joining the likes of Spanish powerhouse Real Madrid, English champions Liverpool and Chelsea, as well as AC Milan of Italy and German club Bayern Munich.**

**adidas is not only one of the world's most recognisable brands, but in football circles it has no peer - boasting apparel deals with over 100 clubs and national teams around the globe. And their support of football doesn't end there. adidas has long been the sponsor of one of the most high-profile sports people in David Beckham, while the best footballer on the planet, Argentinean Lionel Messi, also sports the three-stripes.**

**After months of planning Melbourne Victory is excited to unveil its new playing kit, with the home strip featuring the traditional navy blue with white 'V', while the electricity of the fluorescent away version is sure to get people's attention.**

**Melbourne Victory players recently took to the streets to give three of their most loyal fans a sneak peak at the newly designed playing strips, ahead of their retail launch in August. Victory players, including Captain Adrian Leijer and star striker, Danny Allsopp, shocked unsuspecting fans with a series of surprise visits to reveal their new kit.**

**Melbourne Victory Managing Director, Richard Wilson said the finished product was the result of plenty of hard work behind the scenes, "We started working on the new design almost 12 months ago, so to see it all come together with these amazing kits is fantastic.**

**"Both the home, and the away strips, are striking and we're certain our fans will absolutely love them.**

**"adidas is a global brand leader with proven technical experience in football, so we are extremely excited about what the future holds and look forward to a long and successful partnership." he added.**

**adidas Australia Managing Director, Greg Kerr said he was delighted to announce the new five year partnership with Melbourne Victory and is excited to welcome them into the adidas family.**

**"We are delighted to associate our brand with the most successful club in A-League history and we look forward to working closely with Victory leading into the new season and into the future. Football leadership is a key priority for the adidas brand and our partnership with Melbourne Victory is an integral part of this strategy." Kerr said.**

**adidas has a longstanding history in football dating back to 1954 when adidas' founder, Adi Dassler, invented the world's first screw-in stud boot that was used by the German team in the 1954 FIFA World Cup. Since then adidas has enjoyed ongoing partnerships with some of the biggest organisations in football, including a long and fruitful partnership with FIFA.**

**The new Melbourne Victory strip and supporter gear will be available in the club store, adidas Sports Performance stores and leading sports retailers from August 2011.**

Adrian Leijer models Victory's new away strip (above), and Isaka Cernak in the home kit.

## SHORT PASSES

**United confirm McGowan loan deal**

PROMISING young centre-back Dylan McGowan has joined Gold Coast United a one-year loan deal from Scottish Premier League club, Hearts.

The Young Socceroo, who celebrated his 20th birthday just last week, spent much of last season on loan at Scottish outfit East Fife where he made over 20 appearances.

Dylan will know by the end of the month if he has made the Australian Under 20 squad for the FIFA U-20 World Cup in Colombia.

**OLYROOS GO FOR GOLD**

The Olyroos have defeated Yemen 3-0 in the first leg of their London 2012 Olympic Games Asian Qualification matches held at Bluetongue Stadium in Gosford on Sunday.

A double from Jason Hoffman and a goal from Mitch Nichols will give the Qantas Olyroos a comfortable lead going into the second leg of the tie to be played on Thursday at Ausgrid Stadium in Newcastle.

**FFA REJECTS SALARY CAP ALLEGATIONS**

In a statement released yesterday the Football Federation Australia rejects the allegations made in Fairfax newspapers about claims of a possible salary cap breach involving Sydney FC in the 2009/10 Hyundai A-League season.

FFA confirms that Sydney FC's player payments for the 2009/10 Hyundai A-League were under the Salary Cap limit and were verified in a compliance audit.

"There is no substance to the claims made in today's press," said FFA CEO Ben Buckley.

"I emphatically reject the suggestion that FFA is not serious about policing the salary cap. It's nothing more than baseless innuendo peddled by a disgruntled former employee.

"FFA assures Hyundai A-League fans, players and clubs that it operates a robust Salary Cap system with a comprehensive reporting, monitoring and audit process across the competition. We have taken a hard line on breaches in the past and will do so again as required. The salary cap is a fundamental pillar of the competition and I take any claims of salary cap violations very seriously, but in this instance there is no substance and we stand by the compliance audit that was conducted at the end of the 2009/10 season."

The Hyundai A-League salary cap process includes:

- A Player Payment Reporting Register compiled by clubs and reviewed on set dates by FFA
- Clubs submit the Register to FFA at the end of each transfer window, end of contract year and whenever a new player is added to roster in between
- FFA conducts a full compliance audit on Player Payments, including ASAs, annually at the conclusion of the contract period (31 March)
- As part of the compliance for all 3rd party agreements outside Salary Cap (ASAs) the Club and Player must sign a statutory declaration and the 3rd party must sign an acknowledgement letter declaring that the player/s have completed the work
- FFA access to club financial records, documents and other papers FFA thinks may be relevant to any inquires
- Random audits by FFA

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# Cobram's dream run continues

By Robert Di Fabio

Cobram Victory celebrate long into the night after another giant killing conquest. Photo: PETER KAKALIAS

**Melbourne Knights (VPL) vs North Sunshine Eagles (Prov 1)**

In an encounter where there are four divisions separating the respective outfits on the Victorian pyramid, the Knights were expected to gain entry into the next round with ease. However, reminiscent of their cup form, North Sunshine rose to the occasion and stepped it up a gear to their higher league opposition. At the halftime interval, the Knights narrowly lead their Provisional League One opposition by the solitary goal, recording a 1-0 scoreline. Although the Eagles were diligent in battle, eventually succumbing to a 3-1 defeat.

**Oakleigh Cannons (VPL) vs Pascoe Vale (State 1)**

Pascoe Vale had the daunting assignment of travelling away to Jack Edwards Reserve to face the high flying Cannons. Oakleigh scored the lone goal from a set-piece. A well flighted ball was crossed in from the wing, where it was met by a Cannons player who headed it into the back of the net. Pascoe Vale applied pressure on the Oakleigh defence; however they weren't able to prevail. Oakleigh held on to cement a hard fought 1-0 victory.

**South Melbourne (VPL) vs Port Melbourne (State 1)**

Despite South Melbourne's status within Victorian football, they weren't able to prevail on this occasion with Port Melbourne recording a tremendous 2-1 victory in the presence of extra time. A 109th minute winner by Tim Paton sent the Shark's faithful into ecstasy. It wasn't an easy task for the Sharks who came back from a goal down to seal the win. Former Melborune Victory player Daniel Vasilevski gave South the early advantage with a well times header from a Daniel Dragicevic cross in the 29th minute. However, Port Melbourne resisted South's onslaught and found their equaliser early in the second half with a goal against the run of play. From there on Port Melbourne had the better chances and were ultimately rewarded in extra time.

**Southern Stars (State 1) vs Bentleigh Greens (VPL)**

Both clubs cancelled eachother out as the scores remained deadlocked at the halftime interval.

The Stars had an injection of inspiration as they re-entered the pitch, demonstrating an attacking foray of aptitude and exhilaration. In the end, the lower ranked Stars had the final laugh, scoring four second half goals to ultimately record an outstanding 4-0 victory over their higher ranked opposition.

**Green Gully Cavaliers (VPL) vs Sunshine George Cross (State 1)**

Following a spirited first half, both outfits couldn't take the advantage with the scores remaining goal-less at the halftime break. After the interval Green Gully seized their opportunity when Pasquale Vizzari headed the ball into the back of the net which would ultimately be the winning goal. Albeit Sunshine's growing pressure, the Cavaliers held on to record a hard fought 1-0 victory.

**FC Bullen Lions (State 1) vs Northcote City (VPL)**

It didn't take long for Northcote to seize their dominance on the encounter with a goal in the 3rd minute by Tzoulis. Northcote continued their supremacy with a brilliant solo effort by Piemonte to double to advantage in the 29th minute. City effectively sealed the win on the stroke of halftime when Kalifatidis was fouled in the penalty area and subsequently took the initiative and slotted home the team's third goal.

The second half commenced in dreadful fashion for the Lions, conceding from a corner to gift Kalifatidis his second goal for the night. Northcote claimed the honours recording a comprehensive 4-0 victory.

**Dandenong City (State 2) vs Dandenong Thunder (VPL)**

A well taken shot by Ashley Stott sent the Thunder faithful into raptures. That was the solitary goal of the half as Thunder held on to their slender advantage leading 1-0 at the main break. The second half commenced in a spirited manner, with both outfits determined to take their opportunities infront of goal. City regrettably was not clinical in their final third missing an array of chances and also hitting the woodwork. Thunder claimed derby dominance in a well earned 2-0 triumph.

**Springvale White Eagles (VPL) vs Malvern City (State 2)**

The contest was situated on Friday night at White Eagles Stadium, it commenced with an outcry of determination from both outfits, equally accumulating numerous chances; however none were able to prevail as the scores read 0-0 at the halftime break. The second period graced an enlightenment of fortune for the Eagles, as the VPL outfit were awarded a late penalty which was put away with ease. Subsequently, the Eagles prevailed as anticipated, triumphing 1-0 in a tightly fought contest.

**Hume City (VPL) vs Moreland City (State 2)**

Although two divisions separated the competing clubs on the Victorian pyramid scale, the fixture exemplified a competitive fixture, skilful clash. Hume City were evidently expected to progress to the next round following their status within the Victorian football community, however the VPL outfit were made to work hard for their right to live on in the competition. Moreland City punched above their weight, however it wasn't enough as Hume went on to cement a well deserved 2-1 triumph.

**FC Clifton Hill (State 2) vs Cobram Victory (Regional)**

The opening half was a frantic encounter, with both outfits attempting to stamp their authority on the game, however neither team were able to take advantage. At the halftime interval the score was 0-0.

The second half commenced with an attacking foray of football from both outfits. However, the game was brought to life when a Clifton Hill player was shown his marching orders for violent conduct on a Cobram player. Clifton Hill ultimately paid the price for being a man down when Cobram's Matthew Gray silenced the home faithful with a wonderful volley from a corner in the 68th minute. A magnificent build-up was rewarded by Gray's finish. Although, Clifton Hill didn't die wondering, the home side lifted their intensity and put forth an attacking display, pressuring the Cobram defence on several occasions. Though, it wasn't to be for Clifton Hill as Cobram Victory lived up to its name by putting the nail in the coffin in the 79th minute. Nazz Santoro calmly slotted home the decisive goal after being put one-on-one with the keeper following a sublime through ball which pierced the Clifton Hill defence.

The win cemented Cobram Victory into the Final 12 where they will once again be in the limelight following their miraculous display in the inaugural Mirabella Cup competition. Cobram Victory's cup riviere will strive forward for another round.

**Preston Lions (State 1) vs Heidelberg United (VPL)**

Preston illustrated their fighting mantle by equalising in the second half to have the scores locked at 2-2. It brought the Preston fans into raptures as the hallucination of defeating their long timed rivals was drawing nearer. However, the Lions' hearts were shattered when two late goals to Heidelberg sealed a hotly contested 4-2 victory.

## 6th Round Details

**Northcote City (VPL) v Port Melbourne (State 1)**

Ballarat Red Devils (State 2)/St Albans Saints (VPL) v Hume City (VPL)

**Southern Stars (State 1) v Oakleigh Cannons (VPL)**

Melbourne Knights (VPL) v Cobram Victory (Regional)

**Heidelberg Utd (VPL) v Green Gully (VPL)**

Dandenong Thunder (VPL) v Springvale White Eagles (VPL)

Fixtures be played between June 28 and July 6.

## Les Shorrock's Action Packed Picture Page

**Cup Special**

Preston's Robbie Bazzano tackles Heidelberg forward Saso AlexovskiPhoto: JOHN PUNSHON

Over 200 Cobram Victory fans made the trek to Melbourne. Photo: PETER KAKALIAS

Cobram Victory seals the 2-0 win over FC Clifton Hill Photo: PETER KAKALIAS

Left:Thunder wins the 'Battle of Dandenong' against City. Photo: GEORGE STOGIANNOU

Roght: Matt Sanders in action for Gully in the 'El Classico' against Georgies. Photo: DANIEL FLIS

goal! Weekly

# Grass gets Greener for Basma

By Gordon Bennett

**ONE man who has caught the eye in the Alanic VPL this season is Green Gully's Hamid Basma.**

The Lebanon born striker has been making an assault on the scoring charts of late with 6 goals to his credit, as the reigning champs overcame a slow start in the quest to defending its title but are now within striking distance of breaking into the top five.

Former decorated player and club legend Lubo Lapsansky stepped up into the senior coaching role from the Under 21s, and after initially taking a few matches to adjust and tinker the winning formula at Green Gully Reserve, the last few rounds has seen a steady run of positive results come their way and the club has slowly manoeuvred itself into a healthy position up the table and a shot at achieving League and Mirabella Cup success has become a realistic prospect once again.

A long term injury to prolific striker Joel Nikolic added extra importance to the pairing of Matthew Sanders and Basma up front, and slowly but surely after a few teething problems the partnership is now starting to pay dividends.

Prior to arriving in Australia in 2009 Basma made three appearances in Asia's AFC Cup after helping Lebanese powerhouse club Al-Ansar to back to back domestic titles, and a winning goal by Basma in the semi finals clinched a berth in the grand final which Al Ansar went on to win.

Following brief stints at Heidelberg United and South Melbourne, an impressive performance against Green Gully prompted General Manager Raymond Mamo to commence initial enquires on the technically gifted striker, which eventually landed Basma at Gully.

It's smiles all around as Hamid Basma shares the joy with Green Gully coach (left) Lubo Lapsansky after scoring a hat-trick at White Eagles. Photos: ANITA MILAS

Thanks to the interpreting skills of his wife, Hala, we managed to pose a few questions to Basma and find out how he was adjusting to his new surrounds of Melbourne and Green Gully.

**How is everything going for you at Green Gully?**

I am really starting to enjoy my football again. Everyone at the club is really friendly and has been really helpful. The team is a good team to play for and as my English improves with every week, I am becoming more comfortable with everything. I hope that is starting to reflect on the field.

**How did you end up in Australia?**

Well, I was playing professionally in Lebanon, and after my wife fell pregnant, we decided to make the move to Melbourne. My wife is Australian born, and we decided it would be better for us here.

**What is the main reason you've been playing well so far this year?**

I'm very appreciative of the coach to give me a chance. I feel that my game has improved after the coach showed some faith in me. It has been difficult with the language but everyone has been very patient and I feel as though my confidence is getting better.

**What's your opinion of the standard of football in the VPL compared to Lebanon?**

I am happy with the football here and was pleasantly surprised at the good standard. I think that there are more naturally and gifted technical players in Lebanon, but the organisation here is better. Overall, I think the standard here is fairly strong.

**Tell us about playing football in Lebanon?**

Football is of course popular in Lebanon, but the war meant that it was difficult for a lot of things. We would play in front of crowds of maybe 5 or 6,000 and the clubs did everything they could to look after the players and keep everything going, emotionally and financially, but whilst everyone is passionate it was obviously also very difficult at times.

**Do you have ambitions to play in the A-league?**

I would definitely enjoy giving it a go. I have been to see a few games and I think I would be able to compete. I don't believe there is such a major difference in the standard between the A-League and the Premier League. Of course, if we were training full-time like they do in the A-league then I believe quite a few players in the VPL could cope comfortably with the step up.

**Can Green Gully go back-to-back this year?**

Sure, I don't see why not. We just have to train hard and keep our concentration. I think we are starting to gel at the right time of the season. We are getting better every week, and if we manage to get ourselves into the finals then anything can happen.

***Many thanks for your's and Kala's time. We wish you all the very best for the rest of the season.***

# Australia's Very Own Diego

By Steven Talevski

**ATILLA DIEGO OFLI is set to become Australia's next football star as he continues to impress for Hume City in the Alanic Victorian Premier League.**

Named after iconic Argentine legend Diego Maradona, the young 17 year old has scored four goals along with five assists in his last six starts for title contenders Hume City.

With the world of football at his feet Ofli said his focus is to continue helping out Hume City in the AVPL championship race which sees them in close battle with the Oakleigh Cannons for top spot.

"My goals for this season are to help Hume City finish first and win the championship" Ofli said.

At only 10 years old Ofli gained Australia wide media exposure as he received TV and newspaper interviews as he managed to trail with English giants Chelsea FC.

Ofli also trailed at the prestige youth system of West Ham United where players such as Rio Ferdinand, Frank Lampard and England's only world cup wining captain Bobby Moore have all graced the park.

Ofli said it was a great experience to see the professionalism of two of the biggest clubs in the world.

During the tour Ofli meet the then England national team manager Sven Goran Eriksson which was a particular highlight of his trip.

Ofli's latest overseas trip occurred during the last Australian summer where he had a football focused visit to Greece. There Ofli trailed with Greek giants Panathinaikos.

Ofli said it was a great opportunity to train with players such as Djibril Cisse who were open to offer advice and their experience.

Andy Vlahos (right) and scorer, Atilla Ofli are delighted after scoring against Richmond in Round 13. Mark Pistinizi comes in to offer his congratulations.

Ofli also visited Greek Super League club Skoda Xanthi, who offered him a professional contract at only 16 years of age.

Due to FIFA regulations, Ofli a minor was not allowed to sign for the Greek club as his dual citizenship of Australia and Turkey, did not fall under the European Union banner.

"That was a disappointment not being allowed to sign for the club" Ofli said.

Ofli's natural position is an attacking midfielder, where he was able to showcase his talents in Greece. In a friendly with Skoda Xanthi's under 21 team Ofli was able to score a goal against their first team.

Ofli was then given a substitute appearance for the Skoda Xanthi's first team in a friendly which saw him score a goal to impress onlookers.

Erhan Karahan is stretched to try and stop Atilla Ofli. Photos: JOHN PUNSHON

Ofli decided not to take the offer of full time training at Skoda at the lure of playing regular football.

Ofli said that match fitness and playing regular football was a major reason for his return to Hume City. Ofli also said it was great to be playing under the experience of Andy Vlahos.

Vlahos has been able to play for Greek giants Panathinaikos along with Belgium's Club Brugge, Ex National Soccer League clubs South Melbourne and the Football Kingz along with playing in the A-League with the Melbourne Victory.

Along with Andy Vlahos, Ofli said he has been able to learn from a number of experienced players at Hume City including Richie Cardozo, Ross Thompson and Zoran Petrevski.

"Zoran Petrevski helps me a lot on the field. He teaches me to find space on the field as I'm playing as a striker rather than an attacking midfielder" Ofli said.

Ofli's scoring prowess was showcased against Heidelberg United in their round 14 clash where he hit a stunning volley to lob both the Heidelberg defence and goalkeeper Griffin McMaster.

However his attacking talent has been matched by his work off the ball as seen in the same clash against Heidelberg United.

Ofli was able to apply pressure onto Griffin McMaster to force him to miss clear the ball which fell to Richie Cardozo to smash the ball into the back of the net.

Ofli has also shown his selflessness as he passed up a golden opportunity for a goal as he cut the ball back to Richie Cardozo who found the empty net in the round 12 against St Albans.

While being delighted with his current form Ofli believes his best football is yet to come.

## Balkan Wrap

Alex Milic

# Media goes overboard once again

**The Australia v Serbia friendly was a truly memorable occasion for all Australian Serbs. I was at the match in Melbourne and I have to say I had a fantastic time. The match was also very entertaining and featured many chances for Serbia and a few for the home side.**

What I was very disappointed at was the negative media coverage the match received. The Serbian fans made to look like hooligans and so forth. For starters the first flare was lit by the Australian fans. The Serbian fans acted appropriately throughout the match and I was one of them which saw no problems with Australian fans. Of course there was one or two idiots like there always is at football matches. Why would the media in Australia show and write fictional stories of how Serbian fans were acting like hooligans and so forth. That's easy it's because we live in a country in which football(Soccer) is considered a third string sport and sports like AFL and Rugby League are considered the number one sports in the country. Football has always received negative feedback by the media in this country unless it's the World Cup. That's a huge problem in Australian sports society. That's why clubs like South Melbourne were pushed away by the governing body for clubs like the Melbourne Victory and Sydney FC. This country does not like the European culture which comes with football fans and it certainly does not like the fact football is the number one played sport in the country.

Mihajlovic, Dzajic, Stojkovic, Petrovic, Vasovic, Boskov – These are some of the most famous Serbian footballers and legends of the beautiful game. They are considered icons amongst the Serbian people. They played football during the communist regime when players took to the field wearing their hearts on their sleaves. It was also a time when footballers didn't earn way to much money like they do these days.

They couldn't leave the country until they turned 28 and this was a bonus for the Yugoslav League which was once a major force. Many players when signing a professional contract were offered shops, restaurants, hair salons, kiosks etc as their signing on fee. Of course it was communism so it was very hard to be a rich footballer like the ones in the West. It is also remembered as the golden days of football in the Balkans.

Nothing to see here, please disperse! Socceroo keeper Adam Federici takes it all in his stride. Photo: SYDNEY LOW

Since the break up of the great Yugoslavia and the economical downfall in the nation, football was used as a tool for profit amongst the nations most feared criminals and politicians.

Red Star and Partizan are the two biggest clubs in Serbia and two clubs which make a large amount of profit from selling players. They have to date earned over 300,000million euros from player transfers yet both clubs have a minus on their balances or just break even.

Why do such big clubs who don't spend much money on player transfers, yet make millions on sales have massive debts??? That's easy, it's because Serbian football is polluted with criminals who make millions from the sale of footballers.

In a fascinating report by the investigative journalists at TV Station B92 the main culprits of all this are so called 'Player Managers'. What is a Player Manager? A Player Manager is a criminal who scouts young talented footballers and financially supports them so they can make a profit from future big money transfers.

They sign a contract with the player and a FIFA Licensed Player Agent in which the Manager offers the player financial support, protection, cars and so on. The Player Manager pressures the player's club and manager to make his player a standard First Team player who will play week in week out no matter how good or bad he is.

Continued next week.

## SHORT PASSES

**PARAROOS KICK-OFF CAMPAIGN WITH 4-2 WIN OVER SPAIN**

The Pararoos have defeated Spain 4-2 in their opening group match of the 2011 Cerebral Palsy International Sports and Recreation Association (CPISRA) Football 7-A-Side World Championships which are currently being held in the Province of Drenthe, Netherlands.

Victorian Ben Roche was the hero for the Pararoos scoring all four goals, including a hat-trick within a six minute period during the first half.

In the other group match, Brazil and the Netherlands drew 1-1.

The Pararoos will now face Brazil in their next match on Monday and will then play their final group match against the host nation, The Netherlands, on Wednesday 22 June.

The CPISRA Football 7-a-Side World Championships serve as the qualifiers for the 2012 London Paralympic Games with the top seven teams progressing to the final tournament next year.

Victoria's Ben Roche scores against Spain. Pic: FFA

**SMITH GETS HIS FIRST TRAINING RUN**

AMERICAN striker Alex Smith has spent a frustrating first few days with Gold Coast United thanks to a corked thigh that kept him sidelined for much of the week.

But the 25-year-old former Sydney Olympic forward had his first training run with his new teammates during the week and within minutes of kicking his first ball the spring was back in his step.

Smith picked up the injury playing for Olympic against South Coast Wolves in the NSW Premier League last Sunday, just hours before he was due to fly north to the Gold Coast.

Eleven goals in thirteen games for Sydney Olympic says much about Smith's goalscoring abilities and he is confident he can establish himself in the Gold Coast United line-up.

## Viva Espana

Pepe Lopez

# New deadline set for Aguero Transfer

**Incoming Atletico Madrid Coach Gregorio Manzano has set a new transfer deadline for the sale of Sergio "Kun" Aguero of July 4, coinciding with the start of Atletico Madrid's pre-season campaign.**

Gregorio Manzano has recently accepted a 12 month contract with the Rojiblancos, after leaving Sevilla FC, returning to the club he previously coached in 2003-2004, without much success. Manzano's greatest honour was winning the 2002-2003 Spanish Cup as coach of Mallorca. "Until July 4, when our pre-season starts, we are able to negotiate for Aguero, after this date, clubs that want to take him away will have to pay his release clause (45 Million Euro). We have to impose ourselves on the market and so we need to know whether we can count on our strongest player."

Barcelona FC appear to have dropped out of the running to sign Kun Aguero, with a European summer spending budget of around 50 Million Euro, Barca have focused their attention on Catalan-born Cesc Fabregas. Fabregas is destined to leave Arsenal FC, as Cesc's public criticism of Coach Arsene Wenger and the Arsenal Football Club in the climax of the 2010-2011 season would have been viewed as unforgivable behavior from the club captain by Wenger and Arsenal club Directors.

Arsenal and Barcelona are currently in a Mexican stand-off over a transfer fee.

With Real Madrid coach Jose Mourinho keen not to lose any of his current squad and Sergio Aguero's intent to stay in Spain, there remains the possibility of no move, Aguero himself stating as much; "There is a lot of speculation regarding my near future at Atletico and in relation to the transfer market. However, there is no decision yet - I do not know if I will leave Atletico and where I might play next season".

In other news, Turkish club Galatasaray have attempted to raid the unsettled Atleti club, by making a triple offer for Diego Forlan, Jose Reyes and Tomas Ujfalusi.

"We have begun negotiations with Club Atletico de Madrid over the transfers of the footballers Diego Forlan, Jose Antonio Reyes and Tomas Ujfalusi," stated the official Galatasaray web-site. "The public will be notified of developments."

Sergio 'Kun' Aguero

# South Exit Singapore Cup

**Albirex Niigata (Singapore) FC knocked out a determined South Melbourne FC side from the 2011 RHB Singapore Cup.**

The 3-0 win at Jalan Besar Stadium last Sunday night sent the White Swans through to the quarterfinals, while the Australians failed to better their performance from last season.

Eddie Krncevic, who oversaw the second half of South's Singapore Cup quest last season, was less than disappointed with his team's performance. "We played a good team, they were very mobile with a few players who are a bit special. They played good flowing football, and I can understand why they are near the top of the ladder."

Accepting that the result was a little too harsh, Krncevic mentioned "3-0? Didn't think it was a 3-0 game," he stated in the post-match conference.To be honest the result didn't reflect the game. But it was good experience for us. We played good football and I was very pleased with that. It's a game we were always going to learn a lot from. It's not easy going out to play in the searing heat".

The 50-year-old's consolation stemmed from the relatively strong start his team made, when a shaky Albirex defence came close to gifting the lead to the visitors within the opening fifteen minutes.

First, Jesse Krncevic, poked over from close range after being fed through on the blind side by Daniel Vasilevski, who also flashed a long-range volley just past the framework shortly after.

Thomas Matthews failed to register a shot on target as well when he glanced a header from a good position off a wide free kick.

But Albirex quickly found their footing and broke the deadlock against the run of play in the simplest of moves that totally flatfooted the South Melbourne defence.

Ryuta Hayashi's chip from the byline into a penalty box teeming with South defenders sailed over everyone's reach and found an unmarked Shotaro Ihata at the deep end, who calmly nodded home the opener.

The goal unfortunately signalled the end of the match as a competition, as Albirex withdrew into their half to retain possession and tease the Australians, who were already showing signs of tired legs.

But Tatsuro Inui did manage to sneak in a powerful shot before the signal for the break, an unexpected and swerving effort from the left flank which an alert Zaim Zeneli in goal reacted to brilliantly to deflect clear.

The introduction of fresh legs started to show dividends as South broke into the Albirex half more regularly, but the White Swans promptly upped the tempo and twice came close to doubling the lead.

Zeneli expertly denied Shimpei Sakurada, and then Bruno Suzuki Castenheira pulled his effort just wide from inside the six-yard box after some nifty footwork.

But with the further influx of fresh legs from South, they began to register shots on target and came the closest yet to getting on the scoresheet.

Weir did well to bring under control a lob over the defence, but his turn and shot was weak and easily gathered by Yoshito Matsushita in goal, though the forward was unlucky for having his shirt tugged at by his marker, something that went unnoticed by referee Leow Thiam Hoe.

Fellow substitute Kyle Joryeff then tested Matsushita from outside the penalty box, which had the custodian scrambling to turn the ball around the upright for a corner.

Then Jesse Krncevic hit the crossbar from the resulting corner kick, symbolically signalling the end of the competition for his side, as Albirex went on to add to their lead just minutes later with two goals in quick succession.

Atsushi Shimono raced past the defence line to slot home from close range, and then White Swans captain Sakurada completed the scoring for his side by firing into an unguarded net from the far post after Yosuke Saito had done his part down the flank to pull a low cross back across the face of goal.

With so many of his players in excellent form for the night, Albirex Head Coach Sugiyama was visibly pleased with the performance, though he refused to single out individual performers.

Jess Krncevic in action against J-League feeder side Niigata

"Every player impressed me tonight," was the 39-year-old's measured response when asked on his man of the match. South Melbourne are a tough and strong side, physically and tactically, as I had expected."

Despite his team's stern showing for the night, making them look like early favourites for the RHB Singapore Cup crown, Sugiyama refused to be drawn too deep into his side's overall chances for the tournament.

"I don't know about the future, but we had a good game today," he remarked.

"My players did their best against big and tall players. The important thing is to continue (with this), so we must keep improving and play better than today."

***FINAL SCORE: SOUTH MELBOURNE 0-3 ALBIREX NIIGATA SINGAPORE FC (HT: 0-1)***

***South Melbourne:***
***Zaim Zeneli, Thomas Matthews, Daniel Vasilevski (78' Marinos Gasparis), Steven Topalovic, Carl Recchia (C), Kliment Tasevski, Jesse Krncevic, Trent Waterson, Daniel Dragicevic (73' Kyle Joryeff), Sebastian Petrovic (58' Steven Weir), Meyer (Junior) Carlos. Subs: Steven Weir, Marinos Gasparis, Kyle Joryeff, Robert Russell***

***Albirex Niigata Singapore FC:***
***Yoshito Matsushita, Ryuta Hayashi, Shuhei Hotta, Kazuki Kobatashi, Atsushi Shimono, Bruno Castanheira (74' Yosuke Saito), Shimpei Sakurada (C), Tatsuro Inui (91 Musashi Okuyama), Shotaro Ihata, Norihiro Kawakami, Takuya Hidaka Subs: Keisuke Matsui, Yosuke Saito, Ryo Hasegawa, Musashi Okuyama, Shunsuke Sagesaka, Hidekazu Yamashita, Kazuya Inagaki***

***Venue: Jalan Besar Stadium, Singapore***
***Date: Sunday 12 June 2011***
***Crowd: approximately 2,000***
***SMFC Player of the Match:***
***Zaim Zeneli (SMFC)***

## Krncevic's Crunchlines

Australian soccer legend, Eddie Krncevic represented the Socceroos 35 times and scored 17 goals.
He played professionally in Europe for Dimano Zagreb (Croatia), MSV Duisberg (Germany), Mulhouse (France) and Anderlecht, FC Liege, Aalst and Charleroi in Belgium.
Eddie is currently coach of VPL's South Melbourne FC.

With Eddie Krncevic

# Give kids free entry to GF

**Greetings football fans and welcome to another dose of Krncevic's Krunchlines.**

They say a week is a long time in politics, just ask Simon Overland, and the same can certainly be applied to the football world.

Since the last edition we have been treated to an absorbing international friendly between the Socceroos and Serbia; the one time master class Ronaldo was given a send-off by Brazil in their friendly against Romania; preparations are in full swing for the Copa America; revelations have surfaced regarding a breach of the salary cap by Sydney FC; kits for the new season have been revealed amidst much fanfare by teams such as Melbourne Victory, Melbourne Heart and England's Liverpool; and not to mention all the usual off-season speculation regarding transfers and managerial changes.

For my column this week, I want to reiterate a point from a previous column that I believe is extremely important and closer to home and mostly relevant to the world game at grassroots level.

I would like to take this opportunity to urge the editor of this publication to utilise his resources and begin a campaign aimed towards the football community, in order to try and get some action implemented.

I call upon the FFV and the VPL clubs to have the vision to provide a free double pass to every junior football player in this state to attend the VPL grand final at the end of the season.

I don't see the point of staging a Grand Final at a venue like AAMI Park if we're only goung to draw a couple of thousand people.

In my opinion, we should try and fill the whole thing, or else revert back to a boutique stadium like Bob Jane or Somers Street and create a worthwhile atmosphere.

I really hope that my column strikes a chord with the powers that be and the idea is taken seriously. So serious in fact, that it actually triggers some action.

I believe the idea of inviting and involving everyone at the showpiece match of the local football calendar would be a masterstroke of ingenuity that could prove to be the catalyst in re-connecting football from top to bottom.

At last count there are well over 50,000 junior players in Victoria. A double pass that is granted with each registration fee for the year could have the potential of generating a crowd of almost 100,000 to a Grand Final.

Realistically, that of course won't happen. But why not half, or even a third of that amount? Imagine 20,000 or 30,000 people at a respective Premier League Grand Final in any capital city around Australia. In my opinion, it is a worthwhile gesture and a feasible strategy that all state federations could and should be seriously considering to adopt.

At last year's VPL Grand Final played at AAMI Park between Green Gully and Richmond Eagles, Green Gully president Charlie Farrugia practically saved the event single-handedly from being an embarrassment, when he provided complimentary tickets to all Green Gully's juniors, who in the end basically made up the bulk of the crowd and created the atmosphere.

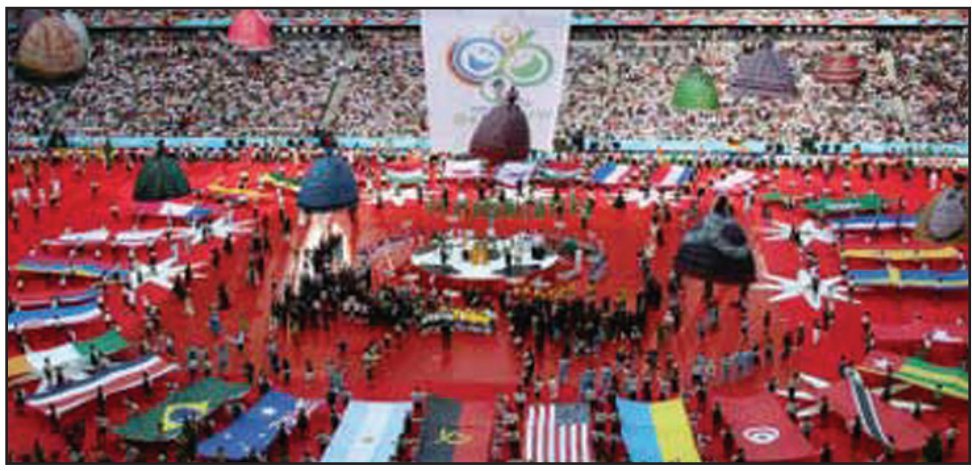
Make the day a genuine event on the calendar to be enjoyed by the immediate football family. The people are there. The numbers exist. We just have to tap into the resources that are already in place, and therefore we must present the invitation so people can get involved.

Each club that attends could also partake in a procession around the field prior to the kick-off, much the same as nations do at the opening ceremony at the Olympic games.

It is no secret that crowds for all Premier League clubs have dropped off and dwindled over the past few years, and whilst the majority of clubs that exist in Premier competitions across Australia pride themselves on rich histories, it is plainly obvious they can no longer expect to rely on their traditional tribal support that has either died off or are just too old to attend matches any more.

Let's face it, we have to move with the times and adjust ourselves accordingly with the market forces, and the time is ripe for the federations and the clubs to work together and attract support, which as mentioned before, already exists right under our noses.

We always hear talk about tapping into the community. Why don't we embrace and involve our own football community more?



Scenes from the future: How a Premier League Grand Final could look if Eddie Krncevic had his way.

## BOO'S WORLD

With Mark Boric

**It seems that Melbourne Victory are in no hurry to announce the appointment of Mehmet Durakovic as coach. It must be getting in contact with all seventy plus applicants who missed out on the gig to let them know first that is causing the delay.**

Another Sydney FC A-League title win has been marred by allegations of salary cap breaches. The 2009-10 campaign saw a HAL operations manager raise concerns about the issue, which only saw him removed from the case. Obviously no shortage of brooms at the FFA headquarters in Sydney for when something needs to be swept under the carpet.

One thing the the recent Socceroos friendlies showed me is it is going to be a hard slog to watch many A-League games next season if the dumping of Paul Trimboli means even more Andrew Harper.

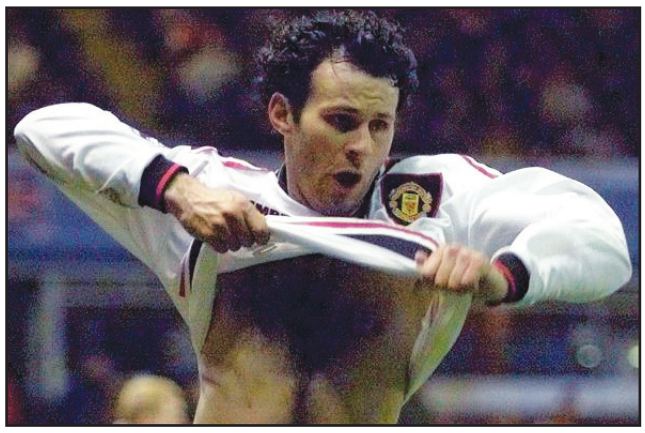
Not great to see the VTC Football program in the AVPL treating the competition with contempt, with their Melbourne Victory-attached players being told to have a five week rest period to prepare for their season. This could mean that finals and relegation places may be decided on whether teams had to play the VTC either when they were taking games more seriously or using second-stringers. Not a very level playing field, but after the infamous farce of the 2007 season when to accommodate the AIS entering the league teams did not all play each other twice home and away, it should not come as a suprise. I wonder if the FFV are suprised that since demeaning the senior men's competition in the state, crowds have continued to decline? Or is the better question, does anyone really care any more?

Not only has the Mirabella Cup brought back the romance of Cup upsets to Victorian football, it has also seen the return of wild haymaker punches as seen at the FC Clifton Hill v Cobram Victory clash. I'm talking about on the pitch, not about what I feared would happen on the sidelines when I was accosted by Katsa and what could be described as some of his "heavies" and warned against further use of his trademarked intellectual properties.

Craig Foster has called on the A-League clubs to divorce from the FFA. Does he mean the ones continually being funded by that very same FFA as well? They should all play like Barcelona too, I suppose.

Is everything okay with Ryan Giggs? It's been a couple of weeks since his last sex scandal, makes you wonder if everything is in working order or if maybe he needs Ahmad Elrich to get him some gear.

If Harry Kewell is after a percentage of gate takings if signing for an A-League club, he would be foolish to join Sydney FC. Though he will probably head to the MLS in America, it would be great to have him play in the A-League to see him come up against Graham Arnold's Central Coast Mariners.



Frisky Giggsy just couldn't wait to get his kit off.....and that was only during the warm-up!

## KATSA'S KORNER

With George Katsamboukas

**After a weeks break, where Club Powerbrokers recharged their ageing and weary batteries, and where the Pop Stars took advantage of a weekend where they diid not have to show their wares, which allowed them to still frequent Melbourne's finest night spots, less the guil the next morning.**

Let's get straight into it, and over to the UK we go, and more specifically Manchester, where...

Man U Legend Ryan Giggs gave new meaning to the term "Family First", where following his tryst with a Happy End Girl which he desperately tried to keep out of the Media, it is alleged that he was also involved with his Sister In law for a lazy 8 years.

A further twist to this caring sharing Story is that the happy End Girl had set up a Love Nest for herself and Giggsy, she now believes that it may have been used for his private "Family" Liaisons.

And at Manchester we shall stay where Wayne Rooney, who also has a fetish for Happy Ends, all obtained from the wrong places, and some may argue, the wrong Ages, has become somewhat concerned about his quickly diminishing hair line, so much so, that he has began a Hair Transplant program.

I have seen the progress pics of this 10,000 Pound Exercise, far from impressive, if I were him, I would be asking for a refund.

Back to Melbourne we go, where it seems that one Goal Weekly Columnist, who will remain un named to protect the Guilty, has started introducing Katsa Terminology in his Column.

The Term Happy End has a trademark on it, and this Columnist could not offer a reasonable explanation as to what possessed him to use this much maligned term, in his most recent Piece.

A few hints on his identity are as follows.

1. Always Wears a Cap.
2. Has a fascination with chasing Match Balls on the Monash Freeway, around the Richmond Area, and has given the term Car Dodging a new meaning.
3. Is able to be a Team Manager and a write a Match Report simultaneously, week in, week out

Cobram Victory hailing from up town Shepparton have continued their David and Goliath run, and are now in the last 12 of the Mirabella, less Melbourne Victory and Melbourne Heart, Cup.

Their latest victims were Clifton Hill, who they accounted for with a 2-0 Score line, and from what I saw, Cobram would be more than competitive in the FFV State League Division 2 Competition.

I will let the seasoned Journos who specialise in writing Match Reports to fill you in on the nitty grittys, as I do not have the attention span to write in anything that lasts fro 90 minutes, unless it involves J Walker, or Over 28's venues.

Until Next Week

This is Katsa just as you have known him.

And remember, one wrong turn in the Western Suburbs on a Wet and Dark Friday Night can add hours to your trip.

Rooney's new rug: shudda just got a 'David Beckham'...

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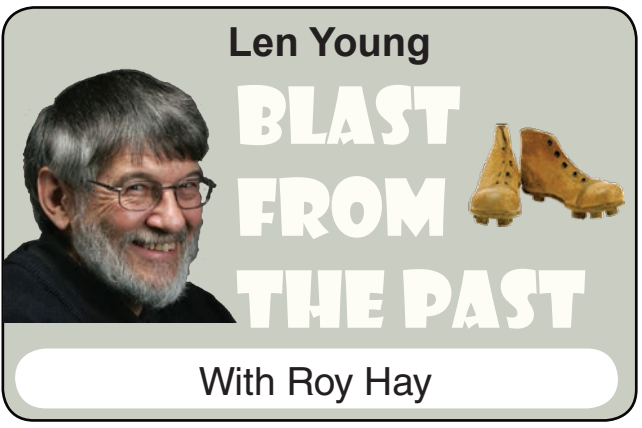


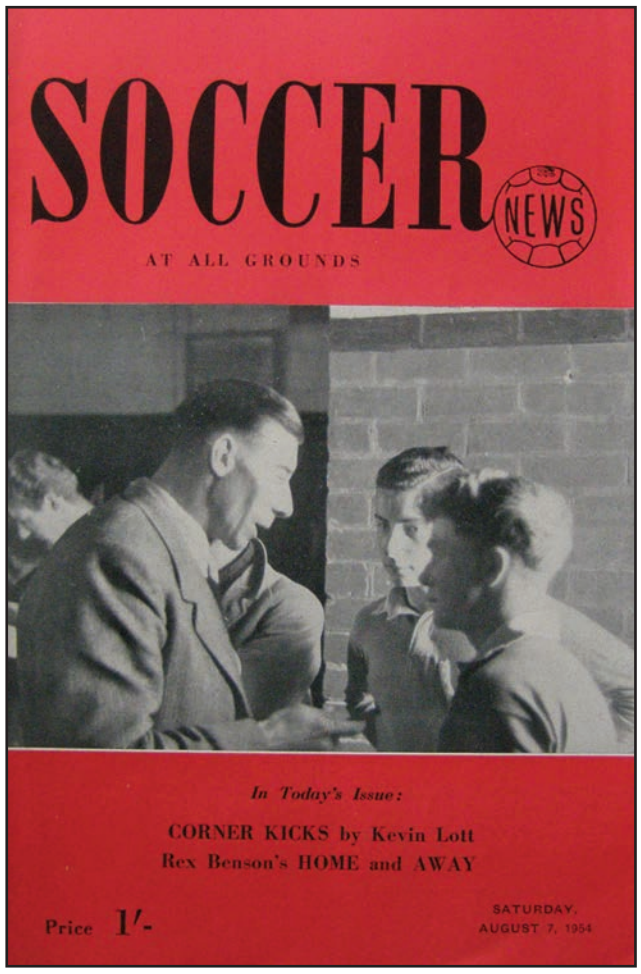

# Victoria's first state coach

**Early in May 1954, Len Young, one of the seven qualified Football Association A grade coaches in England, arrived in Melbourne to coach for five years.**

The terms of his appointment were a house, fares to and from Australia for his wife and three children, plus a salary of £1250 a year. For this he was expected to coach the coaches, coach the state team and the young players who aspired to reach that level, promote the game in schools and set up a structure for the development of the next generation of coaches and players. He wrote what became a weekly column for Soccer News on the principles of coaching. He worked extraordinarily hard at all these activities and strove ceaselessly to get the game into local consciousness. After a session of his class for coaches at Fitzroy Town Hall, Soccer News said, 'the type of football taught by Len Young is as far ahead of the local brand as was the last war to the Napoleonic War.'

Young set up the Victoria Colts as means of drawing together some of the best young players in the state and giving them intensive coaching and the opportunity of play against senior sides. Ted Smith played with the Colts and remembers Young's influence very fondly to this day. 'There was no institute of sport or anything like that, but Len Young taught us how to play the game with short passing and making the ball do the work,' he said. The Colts took over the place of the defunct Shell club in Division Four in 1954. They took part in the Second Division of the Victorian League in 1955 and held their own. In 1956 they were in the bottom two of the league for most of the season and were relegated. The following year they struggled once again at the beginning of the season but Young had them playing excellent quality games and by the end of the year they were in fifth position in Division Three and could have been higher had an outstanding game been played. Five of the initial Colts selection went on to play for Victoria and three for Australia, according to Ted Smith.

In 1954 New Zealand came touring and Young was given the Australian team to coach only to find that he did not have his full squad until an hour before kick-off. Not surprisingly the Australians lost. But Young's Victorian team beat the Kiwis a few days later on 11 August by two goals to one.




Front cover of Soccer News, 7 August 1954, Len Young instructing Victorian Colts Compton and Peachey.

Len Young headshot. Source: Soccer News, appeared many times.

In the 1950s as continental migration to Australia rose and the new migrants brought their different style of football to Victoria there were arguments over the way forward for the code. Victoria lost to New South Wales in Melbourne in March but reversed the result in Newcastle in June. In 1955 Rapid Vienna arrived in Australia on tour and among a string of overwhelming victories against state and regional teams came an 11–0 hammering of Victoria. Alex Barr, an opinionated Scot, who had been a leading exponent of the British style as a player, had now become a media commentator. On the program sponsored by the Victorian Amateur Soccer Football Association (VASFA) he denounced Young for his outdated methods. This was Len Young's 'Simon Overland' moment, and, feeling that he lacked the confidence of his employers, he resigned. The leaders of VASFA had the good sense to refuse to accept his resignation and assured him of their support.

In June 1956 he proved that his methods worked in Australia as he coached Victoria to two wins against New South Wales. A month later a combined eastern states team which was touring the country as a warm-up for the Olympic Games, beat Victoria twice by three-nil in a pre-Olympic tour of Australia in July. But Young had made enough of an impression to be invited to apply to coach Australia at the games, and his state salary was increased by £156 a year. He was not appointed to the national post until late September with the matches kicking off two months later. In those days the teams were picked by selectors drawn from the various states, so Young had little or no control over personnel and less time to prepare his charges. Australian players like Joe Marston and Cliff Almond were ineligible as professionals, while any of the new migrants who had been paid or who had not been naturalised were also ruled out. A good opening win over Japan, was followed by a loss to the much-underestimated Indians, who played in boots despite some speculation that they would not.

The following season Len Young coached the Vics to two wins over Queensland in June 1957 by 4-3 and 5-1. Once again domestic success was put in perspective by losses against the three overseas teams which toured that year. The Victorians went down to Ferencvaros from Hungary by 6-1 on 7 July and by 7-2 against F K Austria on 14 July. The third touring team was the East China Association from Hong Kong, who had toured before and the Vics ran them close losing by two goals to one on 11 August. Later in the year the state team went to Adelaide in October playing two games, both of which ended in one-all draws.

In 1958 Blackpool with Stanley Matthews hammered the Vics by eight goals to nil and that may have been Young's swansong as coach of the senior team. When the Victorians beat Queensland twice to reclaim the FA Trophy there was no mention of Young as the coach in the extensive report on the games in Soccer News. Sjel (Mike) de Bruyckere took over as captain-coach of Victoria for the matches against Heart of Midlothian in 1959. From then on it appears that Young's role was confined to junior teams where he continued to achieve success. A young Atti Abonyi was one of the stars of the Under-14 Victorian team which defeated a St George team from Sydney in September.

So Len Young left his mark on the game in Victoria at a time when coaches were rare animals in this country.

***My thanks to Ted Smith and John Punshon for information for this column.***

The Victorian state team versus Ferencvaros in 1957. Source: Soccer News, 21 September 1957. p. 3.

# Libertadores Final up for grabs

## Latin Wrap

Francis Fields

**It has been a fortnight of finals deciding champions, transfer gossip, tragic news and plenty of end-of-season action across the continent.**

A week can make a huge difference in the football world as we know it, and seven days will be the difference between the first and second legs of the Libertadores cup final played last Thursday and the decider this coming Thursday.

Tourists visit the Maracanã, the Mario Filho stadium as it's properly known currently going renovations in time for the 2014 World Cup. Simply stunning.

Uruguay's Penarol and Brazil's Santos go head to head in the 2nd leg of the Libertadores Final (Thursday 10.45 AM AEST time).

### COPA SANTANDER LIBERTADORES 1st leg FINAL

**Peñarol had a goal disallowed for offside in the dying minutes at the Centenario as locals in Montevideo against Neymar's Santos. That was the main headline across newspapers and websites around the world.**

Well, it is also Pelé's Santos historically speaking. Muricy Ramalho has been the coach there from April this year so better said, it is his Santos side this very moment and has put in reliable restorations with a dressing room that was getting a bit over the roof with its star-studded players on its team roster.

Ramalho has all to play for in São Paulo in four days' time.

It will not be played at the intimate Vila Belmiro due to CONMEBOL's capacity requirements and particularly for a return leg final, it needs a bigger stage so at the Pacaembú it is - the home ground of Corinthians, it's local arch-rival.

Makes little sense but in terms of capacity-seating, it will still be played in a city that is so cosmopolitan and populated, it is fitting for a final and just like London's Wembley where Barça won with domination in the possession game and Santos may just do that.

They have shown superiority in their technical department throughout the whole tournament in comparison to Peñarol. You see, when one thinks Uruguayan, one should think: balls, guts, "charrúa" and that never-say-die attitude so unique to the tiny nation and not what Recoba said about the whole "divine right" gas bag.

The "Carboneros" with Diego Aguirre now in charge, (once the goal scoring hero back in 1987 in Santiago in the same tournament) has the interesting challenge of travelling away to the Brazilian city and play all his cards. It was a nil-nil, scoreless draw last Thursday morning our time.

### BRAZIL

**Flamengo drew 1-1 with Corinthians in the Brazilian league two weeks ago and marked the farewell of Serbian playmaker Dejan Petkoviĉ.** The 38-year-old retired after spending nearly a decade with Rio de Janeiro's most historic teams—Flamengo, Fluminense and Vasco da Gama.

He hadn't been in Flamengo's starting lineup lately but was allowed to play the first half to commemorate his retirement.

Before the match, Flamengo's female president Patrícia Amorim gave Petkoviĉ a plaque honoring him for his time with the club. Yes, it reads female president!

### PERU

**Its national team under Sergio Markarian returned from Japan after performing in the Kirin Cup with nil-nil draws. What is it with scoreless draws and the whole "parking the bus"?**

Copa America is up next for him and his headaches regarding selection is one for all coaches to handle.

Sadly back home a fortnight ago was the tragic death of youngster Gianfranco Espejo, midfielder for club side Sporting Cristal based in Lima who died from a fatal car accident.

The 23 year-old was coming from Máncora, a beachside town on the Pacific coast and heading back to nearby Tumbes airport and return to the nation's capital when the vehicle he was in collided head-on fatally killing the midfielder and his partner who were passengers.

Other news coming in from Friday was that Juan Manuel Vargas who plays at the back in Fiorentina and is tempted with various clubs across Europe has injured his right knee again, an ongoing issue and the muscular strain has ruled him out of the Copa.

### ARGENTINA

Argentina, whose last South American title came in 1993, will at the Copa América face Bolivia, Colombia and Costa Rica, who are standing in for a Japan side which withdrew owing to the effects of the tsunami which forced a backlog of domestic J-League fixtures.

Since their last triumph in the continental showpiece Argentina have seen rivals Brazil win the event four times - losing the last two finals.

The media over there still can't over "River-itis" as River Plate goes through one of its toughest periods in its history trying to fight relegation. That has been a story covered already and with lots of interest too.

Now violence is common at club matches in Argentina, three matches have been suspended this year due to violence, and 13 people have been killed in football-related violence in just over a year. The last death was on the 20th of March when a San Lorenzo fan died after a confrontation with police outside the Velez Sarsfield stadium, whom the latter were crowned champions to the singing tune of "campe-on-es" last week but again, not covered on this page because of that crowned old lady Australia celebrates with a day off.

### CHILE

**Roberto Cereceda, a left wing-back for the national team, unsigned at the moment and a former Colo-Colo player coming out of a ban for drinking a cocaine herbal tea that is perfectly legitimate in Bolivia but not from doping tests whilst playing in the Copa Nissan Sudamericana in the second half of last year got stripped right down to the nude as a prank by his teammates at training.**

Not so much for coach Claudio Borghi (you can find our interview with him online) who was annoyed at the media attention about the training session prank so he banned access to the local media entering the Juan Pinto Durán complex on the eastern suburbs of Santiago until further notice. It could do him a favour in time for preparations for the Copa.

What else? Universidad de Chile, regarded as the Lion by its fans won the Chilean football Apertura or opening championship and not only are they wrapped, they are reinstating themselves beyond the domestic stage and onto a continental level as their Argentinean coach and Marcelo Bielsa-influenced tactician in Jorge Sampaoli has a lot of work still to do if they wish to retain their crown for this second half of the year with the Copa serving as a perfect mid-season break for clubs and players to re-shuffle with pre-season training.

Today Chile plays travelling Estonia at home.

Alexis Sánchez has also been a hot Chilean topic as he could be the potential new signing for Manchester City however that may well be covered already further along the back pages with Leroy Robinson at London Calling.

### URUGUAY

Diego Forlán went through hell and back. Included in one of our "Wag of the week" models, Zaira Nara called off the nuptials with the current FIFA World Cup Golden Boot winner. Not what Forlán wanted or expected before the Copa.

With all eyes on Peñarol's second leg final in the Libertadores, only fanatics and cross-town rivals Nacional do not care less, in fact they want them to lose, "Bolso" fans want Santos to win!

They have a right to as they celebrated their championship win under former national boss Juan Ramón Carrasco with a lone free kick goal by Tabaré Viudez in the final against fierce outfit Defensor Sporting. The free kick itself was a cracker giving captain Alejandro Lembo the momentous occasion of doing the honours.

Argentine legend Marcelo Gallardo was also capped off in style after announcing his retirement .Celebrations went wild at the Parque Central club which also commemorate their 111th year of foundation.

The overall scene at the club has been a success considering a player in their roster, Diego Rodríguez died from a car accident earlier in the year and on the other hand, our Aussie in Richard Porta can proudly lift his as a champion as an expat abroad who has won a domestic title this season.

### ECUADOR

**The squad for the Copa America will be based primarily on players in the Ecuador league, but features four playing in Mexico and three in Europe.**

Colombian coach Reinaldo Rueda has named Ecuador's 23-man squad for the Copa América, picking midfielder Antonio Valencia of Manchester United and Christian Benítez, the top scorer in the Mexican league, to lead the side.

Ecuador, which has never won the Copa América plays in Group B with Brazil, Paraguay and Venezuela in another tough group.

The tournament in Argentina opens on July 1.

***Squad:***

***Goalkeepers: Marcelo Elizaga (Deportivo Quito), Máximo Banguera (Barcelona), Alexander Domínguez (Liga de Quito).***

***Defenders: Néicer Reascos (Liga de Quito), Norberto Araújo (Liga de Quito) Giovanni Caicedo (Liga de Quito), Diego Calderón (Liga de Quito), Gabriel Achilier (Emelec), Luis Checa (Deportivo Quito), Frickson Erazo (El Nacional), Walter Ayoví (Monterrey, Mexico).***

***Midfielders: Segundo Castillo (Deportivo Quito), Oswaldo Tilson Minda (Deportivo Quito), Luis Fernando Saritama (Deportivo Quito), Michael Arroyo (San Luis, Mexico), Edison Méndez (Emelec), Cristián Noboa (Rubin Kazan, Russia), Antonio Valencia (Manchester United), David Quiroz (Emelec).***

***Forwards: Jaime Ayoví (Toluca, Mexico), Christian Benítez (America, Mexico), Felipe Caicedo (Levante, Spain), Mina Narciso (Independiente del Valle).***

Think the Copa Libertadores is only coming to a conclusion?

Well, CONMEBOL's newest creation is the sub20 tournament of the prestigious club competition. Sub20 is the Latin American way of just saying under.

The prestigious tournament now newly created for youngsters boasts of twelve teams spanning eleven countries - with Mexico as invited special guest and with Movistar telecommunications giant, its sponsor.

It all kicked-off on the 26th of June in Lima at Alianza Lima's Alejandro Villanueva, a well-laid pitch and the groups?

**Group A**
Universitario (Peru)
Nacional (Uruguay)
Libertad (Paraguay)
Wilstermann (Bolivia)

**Group B**
Alianza Lima (Peru)
Boca Juniors (Argentina)
Universidad Católica (Chile)
Caracas FC (Venezuela)

**Group C**
Flamengo (Brazil)
América (Mexico)
Millonarios (Colombia)
José Terán (Ecuador)

### RIVER TO FACE RELEGATION PLAY-OFF

**River Plate, the Argentine club with the most titles will have to meet Belgrano to save itself from relegation in a two-leg series in order to save itself from the drop.**

Quilmes on the other hand has relegation a division while Gimnasia from La Plata will play-off with Huracán as well to see who directly goes down to "la B" - the second tier of Argentina's professional league.

River went down 2-1 yesterday to a consistent Lanús side in a duel not for the faint-hearted.

There is a huge mess in the average points system in Argentina to decide who goes down. River could have saved itself depending on other results but of course, if it had also won their game.

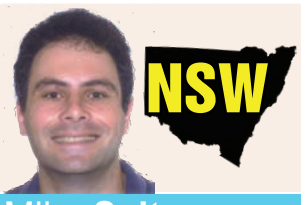
However the result did not go their way, Olimpo of Bahía Blanca won theirs and for a side to have never faced the reality of relegation will now undergo the anxiety of it all.

Away at Lanús, River's goal came from young sensation Erik Lamela to equalise after Lanús went ahead from forward Silvio Romero at the half-hour mark and then his strike partner Leandro Díaz put the winner two minutes into injury time.

Ok, breathe in, breathe out.

See you all next week!

# No Surprises In Low-Scoring Round




Mike Salter

**In a round replete with low-scoring games, Sydney Olympic maintained their four-point lead in the NSW Premier League by seeing off Blacktown City 1-0 at Belmore on Sunday; details of that game can be found below.**

Sunday's other three games were all decided by a single goal as well: Bankstown City scored a late winner against Rockdale in the "Macedonian derby", Bonnyrigg continued their steady climb with a win over APIA at Lambert Park, and Luka Glavas scored just prior to half-time to give Sydney United an important victory over Marconi at home. In Saturday's only completed match, Sutherland held on to second spot with a dogged 3-1 win over Manly United. The bottom two clubs were denied any action this weekend with the fixture between Parramatta FC and the South Coast Wolves being washed out.

### Sydney Olympic 1-0 Blacktown City

An early goal from Sydney Olympic was enough for them to maintain their buffer at the top of the table, although they suffered some uncomfortable moments against a resurgent Blacktown in the course of the afternoon.

The goal came after only four minutes, and was superbly executed. A surge down the left from Will Angel, one of the finds of the season, led to a neat interchange of passes deep in the Blacktown third, and the home side eventually worked the ball over to an unmarked Chris Triantis, who buried a fizzing shot past Blacktown keeper Symon Jaeger with his formidable right foot.

Triantis almost made it two for his side thirteen minutes later. After a jinking run which took him past a crowd of Blacktown defenders, he let fly from just outside the area, sending his shot just wide of the upright.

Olympic had the upper hand for most of the half, but Blacktown missed an excellent chance to level things up just after the half-hour. A clever ball from the hard-working Mitchell Long sent Travis Major through on goal, and the youngster unselfishly but perhaps mistakenly squared the ball to the burly Luke Roodenburg, who shanked his shot over the top.

The speed of Angel on the left flank continued to be a nightmare for the Blacktown defence, and towards the end of the half he twice came close to engineering a second for the competition leaders. In the 43rd minute he went to ground after latching onto a loose ball in the area, but the referee, somewhat controversially, ruled that the left-winger had been guilty of simulation. Just before the interval Angel was set free on the left by a deft through-ball from Robert Mileski, and his well-flighted cross appeared to strike a Blacktown hand on its way to the tall Todd Bamber. Referee Kris Griffiths-Jones was unmoved.

The visitors dominated the second period, but an equalizer proved just beyond them. The lively Mitchell Duke provided Blacktown with the first two chances of the second period, first shooting wide from a good position and then heading Kain Rastall's tempting cross into the arms of Olympic keeper Paul Henderson. On 49 minutes Duke himself crossed for Roodenburg, who failed to keep his headed effort under the bar.

Central defender Zac Cairncross, once of Sydney FC, forced himself into the action thereafter. He gave fair warning when he fired in a surprise shot which whistled wide of Henderson's near post, and on 66 minutes he managed to hit the woodwork with a header from Major's free kick from the left.

The game became bogged down in physical challenges, and chances were at a premium until the final five minutes. A fine free kick from Matt Lewis four minutes from the end of normal time tested Henderson, but the former North Queensland custodian did well to palm the ball wide. In the final minute Olympic missed a good chance to make the score 2-0 when Triantis, on the right, just failed to pick out a well-placed Mileski in the area.

It did not matter. Olympic held on to claim another three points in what seems an inexorable march towards the Premiership.

FNSW action from Bonnyrigg White Eagles' 1-0 defeat of APIA Leichhardt Tigers..
Photos: CARLOS FURTADO/Courtesy FNSW

### NSW Results

**NSW PREMIER LEAGUE: ROUND 13:**
**FIRST GRADE:** Parramatta Eagles South Coast Wolves Washed Out, Sutherland Sharks 3 (Matthew Bailey 50/57m Nikolas Tsattalios 63m) Manly United FC 1 (Scott Balderson 71m). APIA Leichhardt Tigers 0 Bonnyrigg White Eagles 1 (Alexander Canak 56m), Bankstown City 1 (Fredrick Graham 87m) Rockdale City Suns 0, Sydney Olympic 1 (Chris Triantis 4m) Blacktown City FC 0, Sydney United 1 (Luka Glavas 45m) Marconi Stallions 0.

**GRADE 20:** Parramatta Eagles South Coast Wolves Washed Out, Sutherland Sharks 0 Manly United FC 2, APIA Leichhardt Tigers 2 Bonnyrigg White Eagles 2, Bankstown City 0 Rockdale City Suns 2, Sydney Olympic 0 Blacktown City FC 4, Sydney United 1 Marconi Stallions 2.

**GRADE 18**: APIA Leichhardt Tigers 1 Bonnyrigg White Eagles 1, Bankstown City 1 Rockdale City Suns 1, Sydney Olympic 2 Blacktown City FC 2. Parramatta Eagles South Coast Wolves Washed Out, Sutherland Sharks 2 Manly United FC 2.

### Next Round

**Bonnyrigg WE vs Bankstown City**
*Bonnyrigg Sports Club 7:00 PM Sat 25/Jun*

**Rockdale City Suns vs Sydney United**
*Ilinden Sports Centre 7:00 PM Sat 25/Jun*

**Sydney Olympic vs Sutherland Sharks**
*Belmore Sports Ground 3PM Sun 26/Jun*

**Manly United FC vs Marconi Stallions**
*Cromer Park 3:00 PM Sun 26/Jun*

**South Coast Wolves vs APIA Leichhardt**
*John Crehan Park 3:00 PM Sun 26/Jun*

**Blacktown City FC vs Parramatta FC**
*Lily Homes 3:00 PM Sun 26/Jun*

### Standings

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | GD | Pts |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 Sydney Olympic | 13 | 9 | 2 | 2 | 24 | 12 | 12 | 29 |
| 2 Sutherland Sharks | 13 | 7 | 2 | 4 | 20 | 15 | 5 | 25 |
| 3 Sydney United | 12 | 6 | 2 | 4 | 22 | 13 | 9 | 22 |
| 4 Bonnyrigg WE | 13 | 6 | 3 | 4 | 20 | 14 | 6 | 22 |
| 5 Blacktown City FC | 13 | 6 | 5 | 2 | 17 | 12 | 5 | 20 |
| 6 Marconi Stallions | 13 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 16 | 10 | 6 | 19 |
| 7 Rockdale City | 12 | 4 | 6 | 2 | 11 | 16 | -5 | 14 |
| 8 Bankstown City | 13 | 4 | 7 | 2 | 16 | 21 | -5 | 14 |
| 9 Manly United FC | 12 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 18 | 25 | -7 | 14 |
| 10 APIA Leichhardt | 12 | 3 | 5 | 4 | 15 | 20 | -5 | 13 |
| 11 South Coast W | 12 | 3 | 8 | 1 | 13 | 22 | -9 | 10 |
| 12 Parramatta FC | 12 | 1 | 9 | 2 | 11 | 23 | -12 | 5 |

# Strikers Stride to the Top

Jarrod Ellis

**After moving to within three points of league leaders Sunshine Coast last weekend courtesy of a win over QAS, Brisbane Strikers had the opportunity to draw level on points with their rivals that the league summit over the weekend.**

The Strikers started the season relatively slowly but have built momentum and a win over QSL cellar-dwellers Capricorn Cougars on Saturday night was all that they needed to catch the still undefeated Fire who were scheduled for the bye.

Despite having to travel to Jardine Park for the match Brisbane entered the match heavy favourites, understandably when considering that the porous Cougars defence had conceded 43 goals in their ten games to date.

With such a poor defensive record Capricorn were always likely to concede against an attack that features the likes of Matt Thurtell, Sean Burke and Chris Di Sipio.

Burke made sure not to disappoint, scoring Brisbane's first in only the 12th minute after a desperate goal-mouth scramble in the Cougars area.

Capricorn responded to the goal reasonably well, defending in numbers and looking to hit Brisbane on the break, Michael Steere and Matt Davy looking the most likely to find an equalizer for the home team.

It wasn't to be though as Brisbane found the net once again just before the half. This time it was Thurtell who got his name on the scoresheet, jumping to head home a Chris Maher cross just two minutes before the half-time whistle.

The second-half was more of the same, Brisbane dominating the home side as they sought to take advantage of Sunshine Coast's week off.

Capricorn did gain a small measure of respite in the 59th minute, Tyler Stross clawing one back for the home side with a well-placed shot that left Strikers keeper Brendan White with little hope.

From then on it was all Brisbane. Burke bagged a second goal only five minutes later to effectively seal the result, lobbing Cougars keeper Tim English from thirty-five yards out after a lapse of concentration from Michael Steere that presented the ball to the Brisbane striker.

The visitors weren't done yet however, Di Sipio added a fourth before Burke rounded out the night with his teams fifth goal and his third of the night only six minutes before time.

Saturday was a reasonable night for visiting teams, Whitsunday Miners also coming out on top in there travels, toppling Bundaberg Spirit 2-0.

The Miners have been in excellent form this season and it hasn't gone unnoticed. Two of their players, Jamie White and Jamie Hatch have been invited to trial for Gold Coast United whilst striker Jordan Corte has also been extended an invitation to trial with the club's U-21 squad.

Clarke Bradford was the standout for the Miners on Saturday however, bagging a brace just before halftime that proved too difficult a task for Bundaberg to overturn.

Elsewhere the round belong to the home sides. NQ Razorbacks overcame Gold Coast Stars in a 4-3 thriller. The result moving the Razorbacks to within three points of the finals places, just two spots below Gold Coast.

FNQ Bulls got their finals campaign back on track when they disposed of QAS at Borzi Park 4-2.

Gold Coast Stars went down 4-3 in a thriller to the NQ Razorbacks. Photo: ADRIAN GAGLIONE

### Queensland Results

NQ Razorbacks 4 (Edwards 19, Grossman 49, Mayberry 52, Crowley 87) v Gold Coast Stars 3 (Hilton 33, McCormick 39, Costello 80)

Bundaberg Spirit 0 v Whitsunday Miners 2 (Bradford 35,43)

Capricorn Cougars 1 (Stross 59) v Brisbane Strikers 5 (Burke 12,64,84 Thurtell 45, DiSipio 82)

FNQ Bulls 4 (Coppen 2, Rusch 6, DeNittis 24, Ruiz 61) v Qld Academy Sport 2 (Borello 22, Dougall 85)

Youth
Gympie 0 v Gold Coast 2
Southern Cross 1 v Sunshine Coast Fire 2
Qld Academy Sport 1 v Sunshine Coast 3

### Next Round

**Brisbane Strikers v Bundaberg Spirit**
*Sat 25-June 7:00pm*

**Whitsunday Miners v NQ Razorbacks**
*Sat 25-June 7:00pm*

**QAS v Capricorn Cougars**
*Sun 26-June 2:00pm*

**Sunshine Coast FC v FNQ Bulls**
*Sun 26-June 2:00pm*

**Gold Coast Stars v BYE**

### Standings

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | GD | Pts |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 Sunshine Coast FC | 10 | 7 | 3 | 0 | 33 | 6 | 27 | 24 |
| 2 Brisbane Strikers | 11 | 8 | 0 | 3 | 33 | 11 | 22 | 24 |
| 3 Gold Coast Stars | 11 | 5 | 3 | 3 | 22 | 17 | 5 | 18 |
| 4 Whitsunday Miners | 11 | 5 | 3 | 3 | 19 | 14 | 5 | 18 |
| 5 NQ Razorbacks | 11 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 26 | 19 | 7 | 15 |
| 6 FNQ Bulls | 11 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 22 | 19 | 3 | 15 |
| 7 QAoS | 12 | 3 | 5 | 4 | 18 | 22 | -4 | 14 |
| 8 Bundaberg Spirit | 10 | 1 | 1 | 8 | 8 | 35 | -27 | 4 |
| 9 Capricorn Cougars | 11 | 0 | 3 | 8 | 10 | 48 | -38 | 3 |

# Sth Hobart edge closer to title

TAS

Walter Pless

**South Hobart, the reigning Southern Premier League champions, edged closer to retaining their title when they picked up 4 points from a possible 6 in the past week.**

They experienced a hiccup on the Queen's Birthday Monday public holiday when they were surprisingly held to a goalless draw away to bottom-side Beachside at the Tropicana.

Try as they might, South could not score. Kostas Kanakaris missed a glorious chance to give the league leaders a win, while South were also denied a penalty appeal in the final minute.

For Beachside, it was an invaluable point as they battle to stave off relegation after just one season in the top flight.

On Saturday night, South Hobart showed their true colours when they gave second-placed Tilford Zebras a 6-0 hiding away at KGV Park.

Without the league's two leading marksmen in Brayden Mann and Kanakaris, South ran riot and two goals by Jonathon Lo and one by Andy Brennan gave them a 3-0 lead at the interval.

Brennan grabbed a second after the break, while substitute Nick De Falco scored with his first touch to make it 5-0 with just five minutes remaining.

Liam Scott, who joined Zebras from South Hobart this season, only to return to South a month ago, hit South's sixth goal in the final minute.

Glenorchy Knights goalkeeper Ben Peter saves and New Town Eagles' Adam Bates can't quite get to the ball Photo: WALTER PLESS

Zebras had been in fine form until Saturday night. They demolished fifth-placed Kingborough Lions United 5-0 away last Monday and appeared to pose a threat to South Hobart on Saturday night, but the danger did not eventuate.

Second-last Olympia Warriors drew 1-1 with Clarence United on Monday, Emmanuel Tsakiris giving Clarence the lead and Chris Kumpulainen equalising.

New Town Eagles lost 2-0 at home at Clare Street on Monday to Glenorchy Knights. The Knights' Frenchman, Mathieu Gregoire was in superb form, scoring the first after 51 minutes and making the second for Jade Clay in the 64th minute. In between, Gregoire rattled the Eagles crossbar with a bullet from 25 metres.

The defeat proved costly for Eagles, whose coach, George Kramboussanos, and his assistant, Kevin Clamp, resigned after the match.

Glenorchy Knights made it two wins in a row when they overcame bottom-side Beachside 3-0 at KGV Park on Friday night to move further towards safety.

Gregoire, playing his final game before returning to France, was brilliant for Knights. He put them ahead in the 14th minute from Brendan Garth's pass and the Knights led 1-0 at half-time.

A marvellous piece of skill by Gregoire on the hour led to the Knights' second goal. He beat former NSL player Brett Pullen on the half-way line with a deft touch and sudden change of pace and played the ball forward to Andrew Robb, who squared it across the box for the unmarked Matthew Nowicki to hammer home.

Two minutes from the end, Gregoire made it 3-0 with a penalty, awarded for a foul on Nowicki.

Amazingly, the game was not restarted and referee Ivan Jozeljic abandoned the match after Beachside goalkeeper Michael Soszynski complained that he had been subjected to racist taunts from spectators behind his goal after the penalty was taken. This sets an interesting precedent and it will be interesting to see how Football Federation Tasmania reacts.

Kingborough Lions United bounced back from their meek capitulation to Zebras on Monday to beat third-placed Clarence United 3-1 at home at Lightwood Park on Saturday.

A soft penalty, converted by Marcello Marchioli, gave the home side the lead, while David Cooper made it 2-0 in the 53rd minute.

David Abbott rifled home the third in the 71st minute before Kyu Jun Kim netted a consolation goal for the visitors with a penalty in the final minute.

Clarence picked up a fourth South Korean import during the week. Yeon Sun Jo transferred from New Town Eagles and joined Seung Woo Park, Kyu Jun Kim and Jae Ho Lee at Clarence. But, Park returns to Korea next week to have treatment on a knee injury.

Lee is also injured and did not play against Kingborough. Clarence have lost considerable momentum since Park and Lee have been out of the side because of injury.

Devonport City are the leaders in the Northern Premier League after thrashing Somerset 7-2 away at Cardigan Street. Chris McKenna hit a hat-trick and Kieren Mulraney and Robert MacDonald each grabbed a brace.

Second-placed Northern Rangers downed Launceston City 2-1, while bottom-side Launceston United succumbed 4-1 at home to Riverside Olympia.

Prospect Knights beat the visiting Burnie United 3-0.

In Southern League One, Metro drew 2-2 away to Nelson Eastern Suburbs, while University squeezed home 2-1 against bottom-side Southern FC.

DOSA forfeited to Hobart United and withdrew from the competition, making it a 6-team competition.

## Next Round

**Southern Premier League**

**Wednesday 22nd June 2011**
**Beachside FC v Tilford Zebras**
*Sandown Park 08:00 PM*

**Sunday 26th June 2011**
**Clarence United v New Town Eagles**

**Statewide Lakoseljac Cup - Quarter Finals**

**Saturday 25th June 2011 Quarter Finals**
**Burnie United v Taroona**
*Montello 02:00 PM*

**Devonport City v Glenorchy Knights**
*Valley Road 02:00 PM*

**Olympia FC Warriors v Tilford Zebras**
*Warriors Park 06:00 PM*

**Sunday 26th June 2011**
**Northern Rangers v South Hobart**
*NTCA 02:00 PM*

## Tasmania Results

**Southern Premier League**

Kingborough Lions 3 Clarence United 1
Tilford Zebras 0 South Hobart FC 6

**Northern Premier League**

Prospect Knights 3 Burnie United 0
Somerset 2 Devonport City 7
Northern Rangers 2 Launceston City 1
Launceston United 1 Riverside Olympic 4

## Northern Division

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Devonport City | 10 | 8 | 0 | 2 | 31 | 16 | 24 |
| Northern Rangers | 10 | 7 | 1 | 2 | 25 | 9 | 22 |
| Prospect Knights | 09 | 7 | 1 | 1 | 23 | 9 | 22 |
| Ulverstone | 10 | 6 | 2 | 2 | 26 | 16 | 20 |
| Launceston City | 10 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 15 | 20 | 12 |
| Riverside Olympic | 10 | 3 | 2 | 5 | 15 | 21 | 11 |
| Burnie United | 09 | 3 | 0 | 6 | 17 | 19 | 9 |
| Somerset | 10 | 2 | 1 | 7 | 16 | 24 | 7 |
| Launceston United | 10 | 0 | 0 | 10 | 14 | 48 | 0 |

## Southern Division

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| South Hobart FC | 14 | 11 | 3 | 0 | 48 | 15 | 36 |
| Tilford Zebras | 13 | 7 | 4 | 2 | 37 | 21 | 25 |
| Clarence United | 13 | 6 | 5 | 2 | 23 | 24 | 23 |
| New Town Eagles | 13 | 6 | 3 | 4 | 26 | 23 | 21 |
| Kingborough Lions | 14 | 6 | 0 | 8 | 27 | 35 | 18 |
| Glenorchy Knights | 14 | 3 | 4 | 7 | 21 | 31 | 13 |
| Olympia FC | 14 | 2 | 2 | 10 | 21 | 38 | 8 |
| Beachside FC | 13 | 1 | 3 | 9 | 15 | 31 | 6 |

# Strikers strengthen finals claim after victory

SA

Luca Cetta

**Western Strikers enjoyed a 3-0 win over a gallant Para Hills in Round 11 of the Super League at Carnegie Reserve on Saturday to go fourth on the Super League ladder.**

Calvin Mbarga opened the scoring on the stroke of half-time, with Callum Flanagan doubling the advantage. Sunjin Julardizija sealed the result in the 77th minute as Strikers finished the game with ten men following the dismissal of Ermias Haile.

Strikers Coach Aldo Maricic says his side were not at their best in the opening 45 minutes but crucially scored right on the whistle.

"I'm happy to get the win, not entirely happy with the performance," noted the coach.

"Para Hills probably shaded the first half but luckily we got the goal right on half time. We got caught in midfield in the first half but we fixed that at the break and then controlled the game in the second half."

Maricic is aware of the importance of the win in shaping Strikers campaign, but feels the upcoming games against Raiders and Adelaide Galaxy will be season defining.

"We did discuss before the game that we can get a buffer over the sides below us if we win," he said.

"It was crucial to win and the next few weeks will be season defining matches."

Para Hills captain Aaron Goulding lamented his team's inability to finish their chances, but says all hope is not lost just yet.

"Their goalkeeper [Takumi Takahashi] did very well. We made chances but could not score," he griped.

"We are fortunate in that it is close at the bottom and we still have two chances: firstly to avoid relegation and secondly, to make the top five. We play well in patches but it needs to be more consistent if we want to do well."

Raiders celebrate one of Mimi Saric's hat-trick goals on the way to a 4-1 demolition of Galaxy Photo: ADAM BUTLER

A midfield battle made for an even first half which was turned on its head by a moment of Mbarga magic. He was able to chest-down a long pass, beat his marker and then round goalkeeper Ben Moore to finish into an empty net.

The Knights found Takahashi at his usual energetic best and were frustrated at their inability to find a way past the goalkeeper.

The lead was doubled by in the 66th minute when Flanagan turned in a near-post corner past a desperate Moore.

Julardizija finished off a Strikers counter-attack 11 minutes later to add the third. Mbarga was again part of the action, with his cross-cum-shot blocked by Moore but knocked home by Julardizija.

Haile received his marching orders minutes later for a second bookable offence.

The Knights pressured Strikers in the final ten minutes but were denied even a consolation as Sean Brennan thumped the crossbar from distance.

Best on ground for Strikers were Ambesager Sium Yosief, and goalscorer Julardzija. For the visitors, Brett Selga, David Bounds and captain Goulding stood out.

Raiders secured their second win in succession as they put Adelaide Galaxy to the sword with a 4-1 victory at Con Makris Park on Saturday. Mimi Saric grabbed a hat-trick and Nik Kuzman also on target for Raiders, with Tom Dittmar scoring for Galaxy.

Best on ground for Galaxy were Tom Briscoe, Scott Weidenbach and Lwandiso Cele. Daniel Hain, Saric, and Dan Atkins were the best for Raiders.

Adelaide Blue Eagles picked up an important 1-0 win over Modbury at the Marden Sports Complex on Saturday. Fortunato Filletti got the only goal of the game seven minutes before half time to ensure Blue Eagles keep pace with the top two.

Filletti was joined by Kym Harris and Dean Kendrick as Blue Eagles best while the standout performers for the Jets were Matt Kelly, Todd McSorely and Anthony Solagna.

MetroStars continued their winning run with a 2-0 triumph over Croydon at Polonia Park on Saturday. A goal in each half sealed the win for the Stars, with James Yong and Francesco Monterosso on target.

Jimmy Okello, Andrew Harous and Dion Gazettas were Croydon's best, while for MetroStars, Scott Tunbridge, Steven Grelli and Adam Van Dommele picked up votes for their performance.

Adelaide City retained their unbeaten start to the season with a commanding 3-0 win away against Campbelltown at the Steve Woodcock Sports Centre on Saturday. Jace Cummins gave the Champions a half-time lead, with Ricardo Da Silva and Nicholas Orr adding goals after the break.

Captain Michael D'Aloisio was joined by Kosta Mantis, Dino Kristo as Campbelltown's best while for City, Jordan D'Arsie, Jonathon Negus and captain Nicky Budin were the best.

## Next Round

**Modbury vs Adelaide City**
*Jet Park 7:30 PM Fri 24/Jun*

**Raiders vs Western Strikers**
*Croatian Sports Centre 3:00 PM Sat 25/Jun*

**Adelaide Galaxy vs Campbelltown**
*Makris Park 3:00 PM Sat 25/Jun*

**Metro Stars vs Adelaide Blue Eagles**
*TK Shutter Reserve 3:00 PM Sat 25/Jun*

**Para Hills vs Croydon**
*The Paddocks 3:00 PM Sat 25/Jun*

## FFSA Results

**Western Strikers 3 (Calvin Mbarga, Callam Flanagan, Sunjin Julardzija) v Para Hills 0 (HT 1-0)**
Best – Western Strikers: Ambesager Sium Yosief, Sunjin Julardzija; Para Hills: Brett Selga, David Bounds, Aaron Goulding
Reserves – Western Strikers 1 v Para Hills 2
U19 – Western Strikers 1 v Para Hills 1

**Adelaide Galaxy 1 (Tom Dittmar) v Raiders 4 (Mimi Saric 3, Nik Kuzman) (HT 1-2)**
Best – Adelaide Galaxy: Tom Briscoe, Scott Weidenbach, Lwandiso Cele; Raiders: Daniel Hain, Mimi Saric, Dan Atkins
Reserves – Adelaide Galaxy 3 v Raiders 2
U19 – Adelaide Galaxy 6 v Raiders 0

**Adelaide Blue Eagles 1 (Fortunato Filletti) v Modbury 0 (HT 0-0)**
Best – Adelaide Blue Eagles: Fortunato Filletti, Kym Harris, Dean Kenrick; Modbury: Matt Kelly, Todd McSorley, Anthony Solagna,
Reserves – Adelaide Blue Eagles 2 v Modbury 1
U19 – Adelaide Blue Eagles 2 v Modbury 1

**Croydon 0 v MetroStars 2 (James Yong, Francesco Monterosso) (HT 0-1)**
Best – Croydon: Jimmy Okello, Andrew Harous, Dion Gazettas; MetroStars: Scott Tunbridge, Steven Grelli, Adam Van Dommele,
Reserves – Croydon 3 v MetroStars 4
U19 – Croydon 5 v MetroStars 1

**Campbelltown City 0 v Adelaide City 3 (Jace Cummins, Ricardo Da Silva, Nicky Orr) (HT 0-1)**
Best – Campbelltown City: Michael D'Aloisio, Kosta Mantis, Dino Kristo; Adelaide City: Jordan D'Arsie, Jonathon Negus, Nicky Budin
Reserves – Campbelltown City 1 v Adelaide City 1
U19 – Campbelltown City 2 v Adelaide City 2

## Standings

| | P | W | D | L | For | Ag | GD | Pts |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 Adelaide City | 11 | 10 | 1 | 0 | 33 | 7 | 26 | 0 31 |
| 2 Metro Stars | 11 | 8 | 1 | 2 | 28 | 7 | 21 | 0 25 |
| 3 Adelaide BE | 11 | 6 | 2 | 3 | 13 | 12 | 1 | 0 20 |
| 4 Western Strikers | 11 | 5 | 1 | 5 | 15 | 11 | 4 | 0 16 |
| 5 Adelaide Galaxy | 11 | 4 | 4 | 3 | 15 | 16 | -1 | 1 16 |
| 6 Campbelltown | 11 | 3 | 2 | 6 | 7 | 13 | -6 | 0 11 |
| 7 Croydon | 11 | 3 | 2 | 6 | 9 | 16 | -7 | 0 11 |
| 8 Raiders | 11 | 3 | 1 | 7 | 14 | 18 | -4 | 0 10 |
| 9 Para Hills | 11 | 2 | 2 | 7 | 7 | 18 | -11 | 0 8 |
| 10 Modbury | 11 | 2 | 2 | 7 | 8 | 31 | -23 | 0 8 |

# Balcatta Suffer Shock Defeat

Jacob Kagi

**The fight for survival in the Football West All Flags Premier League continued on Saturday, and the bottom three teams were all beaten in round 15 to continue the pressure on all of them.**

Bottom of the table Cockburn City, who have been on a good run of form recently, came unstuck at home to ECU Joondalup, going down 3-1. The visitors struck four minutes before half time to take the lead; John Higgins' free kick was curled up and over the wall giving Cockburn keeper Alex Pearson no chance. ECU took control of the game early in the second half adding a further two goals. First on 51 minutes midfielder Scott Bushby long-range shot was fumbled by Pearson, the ball rolling agonizingly over the line. Then seven minutes later it was 3-0. A superb cross from youngster Luke Smith found striker John Thornley who beat Pearson to the ball to head home from six-yards. Cockburn's consolation goal came five minutes from time, striker Rory Feely, brother of Celtic FC keeper Nick, heading home Ivan Skorich's cross

Mandurah City's poor home form continued when they were beaten 2-0 by Western Knights at the Hyundai Stadium. Johny Mirco gave the visitors the lead on 24 minutes, volleying home superbly from the edge of the box. The home side had a great chance to level before half time, Garin Collins great solo run ended with a lob over the on-coming keeper Frazer Siddall, but the alert Daniel Trim cleared the ball off the line. Both sides had chances in the second half but couldn't find the target and the points were wrapped up for the Knights in second half stoppage time when Mirco fired home from the penalty spot.

Armadale are still in relegation trouble after a 3-1 home defeat against Stirling Lions at Alfred Skeet Oval. The Reds made a great start with English import James Robinson firing home after only six minutes. The Lions who changed coaches in midweek, levelled in the 25th minute through WA State midfielder Andy Brown. The visitors hit the front three minutes after the break, midfielder Ludovic Boi scoring and the points were wrapped up five minutes from time. Former Perth Glory Youth skipper Dean Evans scoring to give new coach Doug Hesketh a perfect start to his coaching tenure at the club.

It was all-square between Floreat Athena and Sorrento at Percy Doyle Reserve. The 1-1 draw kept both sides in the race for a top five finals spot, but it was the visitors who opened the scoring on 58 minutes. Teenage striker Liam Boland was quickest to react from a Paul van Dongen's header to beat Curtis Aspden. Athena keeper Alex Dunn made some great saves to keep his side in the game but he was beaten 12 minutes from time. Former Perth Glory skipper Jamie Harnwell fired home Danny Cain's in-swinging corner from six yards, and if it wasn't for another excellent save from Dunn at the death Sorrento could have won it, but in the end both had to be content with the draw.

The winning run of the Football West National Training Centre came to an end when they were beaten 1-0 by Inglewood united at the 6PR Stadium. The NTC youngster began brightly with Brendon O'Neill and Reece Vittiglia going close, but it was the home side that took the lead on the half hour. Scottish striker Rory Grant firing home from Paul Dugdale's cross. Late in the second half the NTC almost levelled but Harry O'Brien's curling shot from the edge of the box was superbly saved by 'United keeper Oliver Taseski.

Next Saturday ECU Joondalup entertain Bayswater City at the Edith Cowen University Campus Arena, while it's a relegation battle between Mandurah City and Armadale at the Hyundai Stadium. Perth SC are back in action when they entertain the NTC at BGC Stadium; Sorrento visits the 6PR Stadium to take on Inglewood United while Stirling Lions travel to Nash Field for a vital clash against Western Knights Cockburn City have the bye.

There was a boil over in Sunday's game when league leaders Balcatta were beaten 3-2 at home against Bayswater City in the Italian derby at Grindleford Reserve.

Bayswater, who are struggling at the wrong end of the table, went behind in the 28th minute when Daniel Micevski scored. But the visitors stunned their hosts hitting back two minutes later through Gustavo Maralunda, and English striker Gavin Knight gave them the lead five minutes before the break.

Balcatta drew level in the 67th minute when Micevski added his second but in the 91st minute Maralunda fired home his second of the game, much to the delight of the travelling supporters.

Action between Armadale v Stirling Lions from their first game of the season in Round 4. Photo: PETER SIMCOX

## All Flags WA Results

**First Team**

Inglewood United 1 (Grant 33) NTC 0; Armadale 1 (J Robinson 6) Stirling Lions 3 (A Brown 25, Boi 48, Evans 85); Cockburn City 1 (Feeley 85) ECU Joondalup 3 (Higgins 41, Bushby 51, Thornley 58); Sorrento 1 (J Harnwell 78) Floreat Athena 1 (Boland 58); Mandurah City 0 Western Knights 2 (Mirco 24, 91p), Balcatta 2 (Daniel Micevski 24, OG 68) Bayswater City 3 (Marulanda 30, 90+3, Knight 42).

**Reserves**

Inglewood United 0 NTC 1; Armadale 1 Stirling Lions 3; Cockburn City 2 ECU Joondalup 3; Sorrento 1 Floreat Athena 2; Mandurah City 4 Western Knights 3, Balcatta 1 Bayswater City 3.

**Under 18's**

Inglewood United 1 NTC 6; Armadale 1 Stirling Lions 1; Cockburn City 1 ECU Joondalup 2; Sorrento 1 Floreat Athena 3; Mandurah City 0 Western Knights 6.Balcatta 0 Bayswater City 2.

## Next Round

**Inglewood United v Sorrento FC**
*6PR Stadium 3:00 PM Sat 25/Jun*
**Perth SC v NTC**
*BGC Stadium 3:00 PM Sat 25/Jun*
**ECU Joondalup v Bayswater City**
*Joondalup Football Stdm 3PM Sat 25/Jun*
**Mandurah City v Armadale SC**
*Hyundai Stadium 3:00 PM Sat 25/Jun*
**Western Knights v Stirling Lions**
*Nash Field 3:00 PM Sat 25/Jun*
**Floreat Athena FC v Balcatta SC**
*E&D Litis Stadium 3:00 PM Sun 26/Jun*
**BYE v Cockburn City**

## All Flags WA Premier League

| | P | W | D | L | For | Ag | GD | Pts |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 Balcatta | 15 | 12 | 0 | 3 | 32 | 15 | 24 | 36 |
| 2 Perth SC | 14 | 10 | 1 | 3 | 31 | 16 | 15 | 31 |
| 3 Western Knights | 14 | 7 | 4 | 3 | 23 | 20 | 3 | 25 |
| 4 Inglewood United | 13 | 7 | 1 | 5 | 35 | 24 | 11 | 22 |
| 5 Floreat Athena | 15 | 6 | 4 | 5 | 28 | 24 | 4 | 22 |
| 6 Sorrento | 13 | 6 | 3 | 4 | 20 | 18 | 2 | 21 |
| 7 Stirling Lions | 15 | 6 | 2 | 7 | 26 | 27 | -1 | 20 |
| 8 ECU Joondalup | 15 | 6 | 2 | 7 | 19 | 28 | -9 | 20 |
| 9 Bayswater City | 15 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 26 | 31 | -5 | 17 |
| 10 Armadale | 15 | 4 | 2 | 9 | 22 | 31 | -9 | 14 |
| 11 Mandurah City | 15 | 3 | 2 | 10 | 12 | 24 | -12 | 11 |
| 12 Cockburn City | 15 | 2 | 2 | 11 | 21 | 44 | -23 | 8 |

# Tigers Overturn Deficit To Defeat Woden

Russ Gibbs

**Cooma Tigers came from 3-2 down to turn their match with Woden Valley on its head and claim a stunning 5-3 victory in Round 8 of the Rock Premier League to continue their run of good form following their first win of the season away to Tuggeranong United last week.**

After Lachlan Nicholls had scored early and Alex Oloriegbe had added two more, either side of Jair Wilk scoring twice for Cooma, the three points looked to be heading for Woden. When Wilk was sent off it was even more likely that Woden would come away victorious. However, Alex Castro volleyed a spectacular leveller before late goals from Elyja Shah and Goran Josifovski turned the game on its head as the Tigers roared home.

Canberra FC recorded their seventh win of the season to remain unbeaten and with a perfect 100% record as Tuggeranong United became their latest victims falling to a 3-0 defeat under the floodlights of a freezing cold evening at Deakin Stadium. The home team were in command for most of the match but was made to work for its win with the visitors defending well in patches and proving a tough nut to crack. It took the reigning champions fifteen minutes to make the crucial breakthrough as Ian Graham collected a precise through ball to lash a shot from outside the area past the flailing Alex Connell in the United goal.

Connell was to be beaten again four minutes from half-time when a ball over the top of the United defence freed Paul Ivanic who steadied himself before firing a dipping twenty-five metre volley over the head of the United custodian for a quite stunning second goal, the rangy striker's eleventh of a productive season to date. At the other end Ben Klug was a virtual spectator as United was left to try its luck from range on sporadic occasions.

The points were secured for Canberra FC ten minutes into the second half when Graham slipped a precise ball across the face of the United area from where Victor Yanes struck into the net from close range for his eleventh goal of the campaign. Yanes almost scored again later but was denied by a superb save by Connell and the United 'keeper was called into action again to push a fierce drive from Adam Spaleta round the post. His third magnificent save was to deny a header from close range which seemed certain to end in the net but for his acrobatics. In the end though Canberra FC was comfortable winners in what was a routine night at the office.

At McKellar Pak on Saturday afternoon Belconnen United continued to keep pace with the league leaders and put five points between themselves and their opponents Canberra City after defeating City 3-2 in a match that showcased the talents of the Rock Premier League Golden Boot leader Dustin Wells. The prolific Blue Devils playmaker struck twice, once from the penalty spot, to take his season total to eighteen. Taylor Beaton gave Belconnen a first half lead before Wells struck from the spot to double their cushion after the interval. City defender Thomas Castleton netted on his Premier League debut to reduce the arrears before Wells scored again. A strike from Nikola Taneski made it a nervy final few minutes for the home team but they saw out the remainder of the game to take the three points.

Three players scored hat-tricks as Canberra Olympic racked up thirteen goals against Goulburn Strikers at O'Connor Enclosed. Domenic Giampaolo, Mohsen Ravanparsa and James Field all scored trebles with Ravanparsa adding a fourth to his tally. Robbie Deeley scored his first Premier League goals when he added a second half double to the 8-0 half-time score whilst Robbie Shroder was the other scorer in a one-sided encounter.

ACT Premier League action from Canberra Olympic's 13-0 white-wash of Goulburn Strikers. Photo: NICK GUOTH

## ACT Results

Canberra FC 3 (Ian Graham 15', Paul Ivanic 41', Victor Yanes 55') Tuggeranong United 0

Belconnen United 3 (Taylor Beaton, Dustin Wells (2, 1 pen) Canberra City 2 (Thomas Castleton, Nikola Taneski)

Cooma Tigers 5 (Jair Wilk (2), Alex Castro, Elyja Shah, Goran Josifovski) Woden Valley 3 (Lachlan Nicholls, Alex Oloriegbe (2, 1 pen))

Canberra Olympic 13 (Domenic Giampaolo 4', 53', 72', James Field 15', 42', 45+1', Mohsen Ravanparsa 24', 29', 36', 51', Robbie Shroder 34', Robbie Deeley 48', 75') Goulburn Strikers 0

## Next Round

**Canberra City v Canberra Olympic**
*Hawker Football Centre*
*4:00 PM Sat 25/Jun*

**Goulburn Strikers v Cooma SC**
*Cookbundoon*
*3:00 PM Sun 26/Jun*

**TUFC v Monaro**
*Kambah*
*3:00 PM Sun 26/Jun*

**BYE v Belconnen United**

## ACT Standings

| | P | W | D | L | For | Ag | GD | Pts |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 Canberra FC | 7 | 7 | 0 | 0 | 45 | 7 | +38 | 21 |
| 2 Belconnen United | 8 | 6 | 0 | 2 | 36 | 15 | +21 | 18 |
| 3 Canberra Olympic | 7 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 29 | 11 | +18 | 16 |
| 4 Canberra City | 7 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 28 | 9 | +19 | 13 |
| 5 Woden Valley | 7 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 26 | 14 | +12 | 10 |
| 6 Monaro Panthers | 7 | 2 | 0 | 5 | 20 | 19 | +1 | 6 |
| 7 Cooma Tigers | 7 | 2 | 0 | 5 | 13 | 26 | -13 | 6 |
| 8 Tuggeranong United | 7 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 12 | 20 | -8 | 4 |
| 9 Goulburn Strikers | 7 | 0 | 0 | 7 | 1 | 88 | -87 | 0 |

# EPL Coaches in Melbourne

By Joe Ziada

**Bowen Soccer Academy (BSA) based in Dandenong has been hosting four English Premier League coaches over the last fortnight.**

This venture has been a long time ambition of Zane Bowen, the CEO of the academy who has wanted to give young promising soccer players to train and trial with professional coaches from the English Premier League (EPL).

The four coaches James Shan, Ryan Maye, Aaron Danks and Jamie Smith have extremely impressive resumes and are all working with West Bromwich Albion in the EPL. West Bromwich Albion has a well founded reputation for nurturing and producing good young talent. All those who attended the clinics were extremely impressed with the quality of the coaching and many claimed not to have seen anything of this caliber before. The clinics in Melbourne were well attended with boys coming from all over Melbourne and as far as Bali. The boys who impress will be invited to take part in trials in the UK.

Having young talent trialing in the UK has been a specialty of BSA. Zane has a dozen players that he has coached over the years who have been invited to trial in England. He is extremely proud of the boys who have been signed up by English clubs.

BSA makes use of all opportunities to take part in tournaments around Asia. Last year his boys took part in the Bali 5s tournament in Bali, the Great Wall Cup in China, the Ramada International in Thailand and the Dato Chu tournament in Malaysia. The club's aim is to give the boys an opportunity to play with and against some of the best and diverse teams. He is currently planning on taking a squad to play against some of the Chinese and North Korean National teams as well as teams from the US, Italy and Brazil in the Great Wall Cup to be held in Beijing in the latter half of July this year. "The competition will be tough but we are confident about the chances of some of our teams, especially the younger ones" says Zane. It will be an experience that the boys will never forget.

## WAG OF THE WEEK

**Michell Marsh Age: 28**
**Scored with Will Haining (Morecombe)**

## Couch Potato Dept.

* ALL TIMES ARE AEST

### SBS

**SBS ONE**
**Monday 20th June**
4:30 pm **FIFA Futbol Mundial**
11:30 pm **The World Game -** Forum Special

**Friday June 24th**
05:45 AM **FIFA U-17 World Cup Mexico 2011: Australia v Brazil - Live** from Estadio Omnilife, Guadalajara, Mexico.

**Sunday June 26th**
10:30 AM **Football Asia** - Provides the latest news and updates of the various football leagues across Asia.

11:00 AM **Les Murray's Football Feature** Highlights of Copa Libertadores Final 2nd Leg - Santos v Penarol.

12:00 PM **FIFA Futbol Mundial -** Weekly football magazine show that travels the globe to bring you the stars of today, the talents of tomorrow and the heroes of the past.

**SBS TWO**
**Monday June 6th**
*09:30 PM* *The World Game*

### one

**Monday 20th June**
12:00 pm 500 Great Goals - Football is a worldwide phenomenon. Sit back as we delve through the
archives of football leagues from all ov er the country and see the best goals in history.

**Tuesday 21st June**
05:30 am FA Cup Classics G Crystal Palace V Manchester United 1995

12:00 pm 500 Great Goals

**Wednesday 22nd June**
04:00 am FA Cup Classics Arsenal V Manchester United 2003/04

04:30 am The Magic Of The FA Cup West Ham United - Greatest Goals

05:30 am Football: Arsenal TV 2010/11 Season Review (Part 1)

**Friday 24th June**
01:00 pm 500 Great Goals

### SETANTA SPORTS

**Monday 20-Jun**
**CONCACAF Gold Cup Quarter-Final Jamaica v USA 4:55am LIVE**
**CONCACAF Gold Cup Quarter-Final Panama v El Salvador 7:55am LIVE**

**Wednesday 22-Jun**
**J-League Urawa Reds v Avispa Fukuoka 7:55pm LIVE**

**Thursday 23-Jun**
**Copa Libertadores Final 2nd Leg Santos v Penarol 10:45am LIVE**
**CONCACAF Gold Cup Semi-Final QF1 v QF2 1:45pm Delay**
**CONCACAF Gold Cup Semi-Final QF3 v QF4 4:15pm Delay**

**Saturday 25-Jun**
**J-League Ventroret Kofu v Kashiwa Raysol 7:55pm LIVE**

**Sunday 26-Jun**
**CONCACAF Gold Cup Final SF1 v SF2 10:55am LIVE**

### 31 tvnow!

**The Futbol Town Show**
Every Tuesday 7pm

**Extra Time Magazine Show**
Every Tuesday 7.30pm

**SMFC TV**
Channel 31
Every Wed 7pm

**The Green Gully Football Show**
Every Saturday 10.30am

### Wireless FC

**Global Football Show**
Jacob Kagi and Ian Hooper discuss local, national and international football every Thursday night from 7.30-9pm on WA's SportFM 91.3.

**The Four Diegos**
Monday to Thursday 11pm SEN

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# LONDON CALLING

With Leroy Robinson in the UK

# Off-Season Epidemic

Arsenal's Samir Nasri and Aston Villa's Stewart Downing

**There's something contagious happening this off-season. Once again it started at Arsenal, and seems to have spread to the West Midlands. In fact, if it was a TV show it'd be 'I'm a footballer get me out of here'.**

Samir Nasri started the rumours by stalling on a new Arsenal contract, which was reportedly offered to him six months ago. The player hasn't really said much on the subject but Arsene Wenger, usually so circumspect when it comes to transfer dealings has said that it is about money.

Speaking on French radio this month, Wenger said: "We have a financial disagreement which hasn't yet been settled. We are still in discussions but we haven't agreed a deal...One thing's for sure, we're not selling him to United."

After Wenger's words, Nasri himself said on Twitter that people should not believe all they read in the newspapers. "I just want [to] tell you don't listen [to] the newspaper and the rumours I will let you know if something happen." Is he talking about the possible move to Manchester United or about rumours he wants parity with top earner Cesc Fabregas (on £110k a week)? He has a year left on his contract so he is in a prime position to make whatever demands he pleases.

What should Arsenal do? Selling him to Manchester United for around £12m would make the most sense, that's if they really want to keep to their rigid wage structure. It has been said that they don't need Samir, that his goals and assists can be replaced by Andrei Arshavin and Maroune Chamakh. This theory has some credence and, ordinarily, I wouldn't be so concerned for the Gunners if Nasri left. However, if he went to another English club, especially Manchester United, that would be unacceptable. Making your rivals stronger is not a good idea. The bottom line is if Arsenal thinks he's one of their top players they have to pay him like one. There's only one way this can end for Nasri: with more money in his bank account. He can't lose. Now all he has to decide is if he wants to live in London or Manchester.

Arsenal has another problem. It's called Gael Clichy. He also has a year left on his contract and there have been noises about him going to Italy or even to Anfield. Now, it isn't wise to make a rival stronger, as has been established. However, in this case, I don't see Liverpool as being much of a rival to Arsenal, and Clichy isn't the top left-back he was a few years ago. I'd let him join Liverpool and bring Kieran Gibbs into the first team. That would be a classic win-win. Arsenal get cash for a player with an expiring contract, and Liverpool pay £5m to solve a problem position, plus Clichy goes to a team that will appreciate him.

In the West Midlands there are also two international players who are making noises about leaving. Ashley Young has a year left on his contract and Stewart Downing has two. These are two of Villa's better players, but if you listened to Villa fans, and look at the forums, there's only one player they want to leave, and that's Ashley Young. He has had an erratic season, in which his best performances have been for his country. There have been reports that he has already agreed personal terms with Manchester United and the source, Sky Sports News, is very sound.

However, if you believe Aston Villa legend Tony Morley, Stewart Downing is more important. "I personally, out of the two, would rather have Downing than Young," said Morley, according to the Birmingham Mail. "I'm not saying that because one's better than the other, just for the simple reason that Downing's a better natural left-sided player...I know he plays on the right. But I personally think if Marc Albrighton improves in the next year or so he could do the job that Young's doing on the wing and he'll get crosses in.

"Every team needs a natural left-sided player and I think Downing's ideal. I think he's had a superb season and he can only get better."

He's gotten it half right. Downing has been more consistent and, much as I rate Ashley Young, he has a tendency to pull out of tackles and fall over a little too easily, in my opinion. I also don't understand where he'll fit in at Old Trafford, or if he's an improvement on what they have. How will he help them beat Barcelona, when his crossing is at best erratic? I prefer Downing because he has more of a tendency to commit defenders and, as Morley said, he is naturally left-sided.

The problem for Villa is that Downing will not sign a new contract. The former Middlesbrough player told the Northern Echo earlier this month: "I know the club are keen for me to extend my contract as I only have two years left on my deal...My agent had a recent meeting with our chief executive. However, I am 26, and at a major crossroads in my career, so I won't be committing to a new deal at the moment." He is not the only one at a crossroads. Villa, having just appointed Alex McLeish, are the type of club that are one or two players away from being in the top six, or minus two players away from being relegation candidates.

## Charitable Villa Reward Failure

Before Alex McLeish agreed to join Aston Villa from rivals Birmingham City, certain Villa fans were threatening to never show up at Villa Park again. I don't blame them, but not for the reasons you might think. They were upset with owner Randy Lerner's bizarre decision to hire McLeish after he resigned from The Blues. However, my problem is not that McLeish coached their rivals. Quite frankly, he probably doesn't care much about the rivalry between Villa and Birmingham, given he is a Scot and has been a coach in one of the bitterest rivalries in sports: Rangers-Celtic. By comparison, the second city rivalry is no more than a petty squabble over who controls the remote.

Coaches have managed rivals in the past. Leonardo has just finished a stint at Inter Milan, a year or so after he left AC Milan. I think this notion that a coach is somehow part of a rivalry between two clubs is rather outdated. Of course, there are exceptions. Rangers-Celtic is quite obviously one, and Jose Mourinho would never be welcome as coach of Barcelona. However, these are rare exceptions, because in general, coaches just don't buy into the rivalries as much as fans because they are employees with too much on their plate to think about hating the team down the road. In any case, as has been shown in McLeish's case, you don't want to antagonise your rivals because you never know when you'll be working for them.

Thankfully, many Villa fans have calmed down, but I can't help but think they've missed the point in their rants about McLeish. The football his team played at Birmingham City was at times soporific. He was coach of a club that went down and now, essentially, he's been promoted. What other job would that happen in? It can be argued that he'll have more to work with at Villa, and have more money, but he will also have higher expectations. Quite frankly, his career in England has thus far been chequered at best. Yes, he won titles with Rangers in Scotland, but a drunken monkey could've done that. On 13th August at Fulham is when his first real test begins, and he'd better pray he starts his Villa career off well. Otherwise the fans will have knives out for him and Randy Lerner, who showed with the appointment of Houllier that his penchant for hiring rubbish coaches for his NFL team, the Cleveland Browns, extends to this side of the pond. Good luck Alex, you'll need it.

## One For The Future

In this week's one for the future, look out for the name Erick Torres. He's 18, in his first season as a pro, and has replaced Javier Hernandez as Chivas striker. Apparently he's on the radar of several European clubs, including Manchester United. He has two good feet, is good in the air but his robot celebration sucks. You heard it here first, about the celebration I mean.

Torres Mark II: Chelsea could have saved themselves a bomb...

Socceroo Carl Valeri and Slobodan Rajkovic at a stretch.
PHOTO: DANIEL FLIS

Ivan Obradovic leads the protests with Slobodan Rajkovic to referee Minoru Tojo.
PHOTO: SYDNEY LOW

Socceroo Sasa Ognenovski and Serbia's Jovan Damjanovic in full swing.
PHOTO: DANIEL FLIS

Brett Holman about to pull the trigger as Milan Vilotic slides in with hands out of harm's way. PHOTO: SYDNEY LOW

Serbia stands tall with mascots as national anthems are played.
Standing from left to right is Dejan Stankovic (C), Damir Kahriman (gk), Nenad Tomovic, Radoslav Petrovic, Ivan Obradovic, Jovan Damjanovic, Milan Vilotic, Slobodan Rajkovic, Zdravko Kuzmanovic, Adem Ljajic, Zoran Tosic.
Photo: SYDNEY LOW

FOOTBALL FEDERATION AUSTRALIA

INTERNATIONAL FRIENDLY

Match Report by Roy Hay

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The Socceroos began with Wilkshire, Neill, Ognenonvski and Zullo across the back, Emerton, Jedinak, Valeri and McKay in the middle and Holman and Thompson up front.

Early on the home team looked very sharp and had a couple of near things in the first few minutes, but then Serbia settled and retained possession for nearly ten minutes, with Dejan Stankovic having two long range efforts which went over. One was a free kick and the other was pushed clear by Adam Federici, who had an excellent game in goal, showing there is depth of talent among the keepers.

Mile Jedinak was trying his luck at every opportunity, bringing the keeper into action with a shot from distance, then hitting a wicked free kick which keeper Damir Khariman spilled.

Michael Zullo was injured in a tackle in 33 minutes, but resumed, then Brett Holman tried to chip the keeper and followed that with an excellent cut-back which Archie Thompson could just not convert.

Adem Ljajic should have done better for Serbia when he shot well over from directly in front of goal and inside the penalty area. Brett Emerton set up Thompson then Holman but both final shots were too close to the keeper.

At half-time, Zullo was replaced by James Troisi, who had a very mixed second half. He put over a couple of excellent crosses and delivered a neat cushioned header to set up another opportunity, but several times he gave the ball away and failed to anticipate passes or to harry his direct opponent. He got some stick from his coach for that.

Zoran Tosic tormented the Socceroos with some wonderful close skills and runs, but like most of the cultured Serb play, it took place in front of the Australian defence.

A spate of substitutions saw Jon McKain, Dario Vidosic and Rhys Williams replace Lucas Neill, Brett Emerton and Luke Wilkshire, while Serbia also made three changes. Robbie Kruse replaced Archie Thompson for the last 25 minutes and Neil Kilkenny came on for Jedinak for the final 15.

Troisi was put through in front of goal following a lovely move by Matt McKay and the irrepressible Holman, but the Turkish-based midfielder hit the ball straight at the keeper.

Not surprisingly the Serbs seemed to tire in the last fifteen minutes and Brett Holman came close again with a header from a McKay cross.

It was not surprising at the end of the game that Vladimir Petrovic was very complimentary about the standard of the Australian play.

Holger Osiek as always demanded more feeling that the passing sometimes lacked fluidity and players often chose the complicated rather than the simple option, allowing the Serbians to close down the man in possession.

But he did take several positives from the game, including the performances of the players who had come into the squad on this occasion. He objected to the notion that some of these were fringe players, stressing instead the depth they added to the pool which will challenge for the next World Cup. 'We are not at the end of the road,' he said, 'We have enlarged the squad and there are others who may step up, including Luke de Vere,' (currently with the Olyroos).

Overall it was an excellent hit out for the Socceroos, against a quality team, which drew a substantial proportion of the crowd of 28, 149. The group which filled the Victory end made as much noise and created as much atmosphere as the Blue and White supporters do at derby games, so it was a good night all round.

## Match Details

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**Date: Tuesday 7 June 2011**
**Competition: Friendly international**
**Venue: Etihad Stadium**
**Kick-off: 7.30 pm**
**Referee: Minoru TOJO**
**Assistant Referees: Hideaki NISHIO and Akane YAGI**
**Attendance: 28,149**

### Australia

1 Adam FEDERICI; 2 Lucas NEILL (21 Jonathan MCKAIN 58'); 3 Michael ZULLO (11 James TROISI 46'); 4 Archie THOMPSON (23 Robbie KRUSE 66'); 6 Sasa OGNENOVSKI; 7 Brett EMERTON (22 Dario VIDOSIC 58'); 8 Luke WILKSHIRE (5 Rhys WILLIAMS 58'); 14 Brett HOLMAN; 15 Mile JEDINAK (19 Neil KILKENNY 75');16 Carl VALERI; 17 Matt MCKAY.

Unused substitutes: 12 Mitchell LANGERACK; 9 Josh KENNEDY; 10 Alex BROSQUE; 13 Mark MILLIGAN; 18 Nathan COE; 20 Matthew SPRANOVIC.

Coach: Holger OSIEK

Yellow cards: Lucas Neill 56'; Mile JEDINAK 72'; Jon MCKAIN 85'.
Red cards: Nil

### Serbia

1 Damir KAHRIMAN, 5 Slobodan RAJKOVIC (20 Neven SUBOTIC 65'); 6 Nenad TOMOVIC(4 Milan BISEVAC 75'); 7 Zoran TOSIC (13 Marko MIRIC 92'); 8 Adem LJAJIC (21 Veseljko TRVUNOVIC 65'); 10 Dejan STANKOVIC (18 Branislav JOVANOVIC 84'); 11 Jovan DAMJANOVIC; 15 Radosav PETROVIC; 16 Ivan OBRADOVIC; 19 Milan VILOTIC; 22 Zdravko KUZMANOVIC (17 Ranko DESPOTOVIC 65').

Unused substitutes: 3 Aleksander KOLAROV; 9 Brana ILIC; 12 Bojan SARANOV; 14 Dusan PETRONJEVIC;

Yellow cards: Nenad TOMOVIC 45'
Red cards: Nil.

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Ivan Obradovic leads the protests with Slobodan Rajkovic to referee Minoru Tojo. PHOTO: SYDNEY LOW

Socceroo Sasa Ognenovski and Serbia's Jovan Damjanovic in full swing. PHOTO: DANIEL FLIS

Brett Holman about to pull the trigger as Milan Vilotic slides in with hands out of harm's way. PHOTO: SYDNEY LOW

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Unused substitutes: 12 Michael LANGERACK; 9 Josh KENNEDY; 10 Alex BRODERICK; 13 Mark MILLIGAN; 19 Nathan COE; 20 Matthew SPRANCOVIC.

Coach: Holger OSIEK

Yellow cards: Lucas Neill 58'; Mile JEDINAK 72'; Jon MCKAIN 89'.
Red cards: Nil

**Serbia**

1 Damir KAHRIMAN; 5 Slobodan RAJKOVIC (20 Ivana VUKICEVIC 65'); 6 Nenad TOMOVIC; Milan BIRDIC 72'); 7 Zoran TOSIC (13 Marko MIHIC 62'); 8 Adem LJAJIC (21 Vladimir STOJKOVIC 62'); 10 Dejan STANKOVIC (18 Stefan JOVANOVIC 84'); 11 Jovan DAMJANOVIC; 15 Radosav PETROVIC; 16 Ivan OBRADOVIC; 19 Milan VILOTIC; 22 Zdravko KUZMANOVIC (17 Darko DISPOTOVIC 61').

Unused substitutes: 3 Aleksandar KOLAROV; 9 Ivan ILIC; 12 Dejan SAVIKOVIC; 14 Ivan PETROVIC;

Yellow cards: Nenad TOMOVIC 43'
Red cards: Nil

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goal! Weekly

# MATILDAS TO TAKE ON THE WORLD!

By Ann Odong

In the final part of GW's Women's World Cup Countdown, Ann Odong brings you all you need to know about Group D.

After making history and becoming the first Australian national football side to win a major international tournament last year, the Matildas hope to add to World Cup to their Asian Cup crown. Photo: PAUL LAU

## BRAZIL

Coach: Kleiton Lima
Captain: Marta
Confederation: CONMEBOL
Current FIFA Ranking: 3
Best World Cup Finish: Finalist (2007)

### Overview

Giants in the men's game, the last five years have seen the Brazilian Women's National Team become giants in their own right. Lead by the 5 time [check] FIFA Women's World Player of the Year Marta, the Brazilians have brought style to the women's game and in turn changed the game. Despite all the talent at their feet, As Canarinhas has yet to take out silverware after being defeated by the 2007 FIFA Women's World Cup™ and the 2008 Women's Olympic Football Tournament Beijing by Germany and the United States, respectively.

### How They Qualified

After losing their Copa America title to Argentina in 2006, the Brazilians were looking to take back the 2010 edition of the South American Women's Football Championship held in Ecuador. This time round As Canarinhas were not to be denied as they steamrolled their opposition winning all seven of their matches and scoring 25 goals.

The first phase saw the Brazilians waltz through without little problem as they comfortably dispatched of Venezuela, Uruguay, Colombia and Paraguay. In the four-team final phase, the Brazilian's continued on their merry way with comprehensive wins over Argentina (4 – 0) and Colombia (5 – 0) to earn them their fifth continental crown with a match to spare. The title secured, Kleiton Lima's side finished their campaign with a 3 – 1 win over Chile.

### The Team

To say the Brazilians are the most exciting squad in the World Cup in an understatement. Captained by the five times FIFA Women's World Player of the Year Marta, the Brazilian team are one of creativity and flair. While Marta is the centrepiece, Brazil also boast the likes of fellow forward Cristiane, Daniela and, the goal scoring defender Rosana. Although not a physically imposing squad, the Brazilians look to once again cast a tall shadow over the World Cup.

### Players to Watch:

Marta Vieira da Silva (Forward); Cristiane Rozeira de Souza Silva (Forward); Daniela Alves Lima (Forward)

### Best Footballing Moment

After making up the numbers in previous tournaments, Brazil entered the 2007 World Cup without much fanfare. However with their attractive football and several goals, the Brazilians were soon the name on everyone's lips. A 5 – 0 opening win over New Zealand followed by a 4 – 0 win over China and Denmark (1 – 0), the Brazilians entered the quarter finals in sizzling form.

Up against Australia, Brazil got off to the perfect start as they took an early 2 – 0 lead. However, the Australian's came back strong to level the scores before a Cristiane wonder strike was enough to put Brazil through to the semis against the USA. In the game of the tournament, the Brazilians tormented and outplayed the world no.1's before knocking them out to the tune of 4 goals to 0. While they eventually lost the final 2 – 0 to the defending champions Germany, Brazil announced they were a true women's football power.

### World Cup Objective

After being the bridesmaid in the 2007 FIFA Women's World Cup and the 2008 Olympic Games, As Canarinhas will be out for some silverware this time round and nothing less will do.

## AUSTRALIA

Coach: Tom Sermanni
Captain: Melissa Barbieri
Confederation: AFC
Current FIFA Ranking: 11
Best World Cup Finish: Quarter finals (2007)

### Background

In 2007 the Australian Women's National Team announced their arrival on the world stage with a quarterfinal appearance in the FIFA Women's World Cup™ in China. It was a tournament of the firsts for the team nicknamed the 'Matildas' with their first win, World Cup goal and quarterfinal appearance. Since that tournament the team has undergone a generational transition with several stalwarts, including legendary captain Cheryl Salisbury, Joanne Peters and Dianne Alagich, retiring. As with any transition, a period of uncertainty followed but following their 2010 Asian Cup triumph, it appears that the next generation of Matildas are more than ready to take their place.

### How They Qualified

Coming into the tournament ranked 4th in the AFC, behind DPR Korea, Japan and China, the Matildas faced a tough battle to take one of the 3 places on offer. Comfortable early victories over Vietnam and improving Korea Republic before a 1 – 0 loss to China guaranteed Australia passage into the knockout stage.

The semi-final saw them meet competition favourites Japan and despite being on the back foot for much of the game, a Katie Gill injury time first half header saw Tom Sermanni's side through to the final and the Women's World Cup. Qualification assured, Australia team went on to secure their country's first silverware with a penalty shoot-out victory over Korea DPR after 120 minutes of football in monsoonal conditions.

### The Team

The Australian squad is one full of exciting youth. With an average age of just under 21, the Matildas will be the youngest squad in the World Cup. Led by captain Melissa Barbieri, it will the mature brigade that will have a vital say in Australia's progress. The likes of Lisa De Vanna, Collette McCallum, Sally Shipard and Heather Garriock will essential in guiding youngsters like Sam Kerr, Kyah Simon and Tameka Butt.

Australia has chosen a versatile, mobile and attacking minded squad. Many of the players are previous attackers who have now adapted nicely into other positions in the midfield or as attacking defenders. Just how they go against their more mature counterparts, well we will find out soon.

### Players to Watch:

Kyah Simon (Striker); Elise Kellond-Knight (Defender); Tameka Butt (Midfielder)

Best Footballing Moment

The 2007 Women's World Cup saw the arrival of the Matildas on the international scene. In Group B with familiar foes Norway, Ghana and Canada, the Australians rank outsiders. Up against Ghana in the first game, a Lisa De Vanna brace and goals to Sarah Walsh and Heather Garriock kicked off Australia's campaign.

The second game matched them against Norway were an early Ragnhild Gulbrandsen but the Australians on the back foot but a late De Vanna goal set up a must win final match with Canada. The Australians went behind early before Collette McCallum and a late Cheryl Salisbury goal put the Matildas through to their first quarter finals against Brazil. Once again the Matildas got off to a poor start and this time, despite equalising 2 – 2 it was to cost them with Cristiane's stunning late strike knocking out Australia.

### World Cup Objective

Following on from the 2007 quarter-finals appearance, there are expectations on this Australian team to make the quarter-finals.

## NORWAY

Coach:Eli Landsem
Captain:Ingvild Stensland
Confederation: UEFA
Current FIFA Ranking: 9
Best World Cup Finish: Champions (1995)

### Background

When you speak of European women's powerhouses, most people automatically think Germany. However, if there were one country that can challenge the Bavarians, it would be their northern neighbours Norway. In terms of international women's football, Norway has won everything available. The 1995 FIFA Women's World Cup™, the European Championships (1987 and 1993), 2000 Sydney Olympic Games Gold Medal.

While Norway have not notched up a trophy since the glory years, they have managed creditable performances including a semi-final appearance in the 2007 World Cup and the quarter-finals at the 2008 Olympics in Beijing. With a relatively smooth qualification process behind them, Eli Landsem, Norway's first female coach, will lead the very experienced Gresshoppene into their sixth FIFA Women's World Cup™ finals appearance.

### How They Qualified

Norway cruised in sealing their sixth FIFA Women's World Cup™ finals appearance. In the European qualifying round, Norway finished top of Group 2 on 22 points, winning seven of their eight matches and drawing the other against the Netherlands. In the play-offs, the Gresshoppene eased to a comfortable 3-0 victory over Ukraine, sealing their sixth FIFA Women's World Cup finals appearance in succession.

### The Team

Since the last World Cup where the Norwegians disappointingly failed to advance past the group stage, there has been an overhaul of the national team. While stalwarts like captain Ingvild Stensland and midfielder Trine Bjerke Rønning have remained, this is a more inexperienced Norway squad competing. In saying that, there are still plenty of players to watch for. Attacking midfielder Lene Mykjåland will be called on to step up and be the main creative force along with the UEFA Champions League winning Stensland. Up front goal scoring duties will fall to the trio of Isabell Herlovsen, Cecilie Pedersen, Elise Thorsnes. While not a flashy or stand out side, Eli Landsem's Norway will still prove a challenge to the rest of the group.

### Players to Watch:

Lene Mykjåland (Midfielder ); Isabell Herlovsen (Forward); Ingvild Stensland (Midfielder)

### Best Footballing Moment

In the 1995 Women's World Cup, Norway started the competition as they meant to go. Grouped with England, Canada and Nigeria in Group B, the Scandinavians were a class above with a 8 – 0 thumping of Nigeria in the opener before setting aside England 2 – 0 and Canada 7 – 0.

Finishing comfortably on top of the group, they met neighbours Denmark in the quarter-finals. Despite spirited resistance from the Danes, goals to Gro Espeseth, Hege Riise and Linda Medalen saw them meet the USA in the semi-finals. Ann Kristin Aarønes, gave Norway an early lead and, despite America's best efforts, it was enough to see them into the final. Late first half goals to Golden Ball winner Riise and Marianne Pettersen saw the Norwegians past Germany in the final to claim their first and only world title.

### World Cup Objective

Norway are used to success and plenty of it but it's been a while since they have had any. The Norwegians will be looking to make the knock out stage, something which they failed to do last time round.

## EQUATORIAL GUINEA

Coach: Jean-Paul Mpila
Captain: Genoveva Anonma
Confederation: CAF
Current FIFA Ranking: 61
Best World Cup Finish: Debutantes

*Equatorial Guinea*

### Background

One of the great unknowns in this year's FIFA Women's World Cup with the team from the small African country Equatorial Guinea. For the World Cup debutantes it has been a swift rise from African football minnows to now representing the continent, along with Nigeria, on the world stage.

Equatorial Guinea first game to prominence two years ago when they upset the CAF applecart with victory in the 2008 African Women's Championships. On their way, the Guineas defeated the only team to win a championship Nigeria (8 times at that stage) as well as the more established women's football nations South Africa and Cameroon. Not much is known about the squad but one thing is for certain, they have conquered more fancied opposition and should not be taken lightly.

### How They Qualified

As the title holders of the 2008 African Women's Championships, Equatorial Guinea entered the 2010 edition as favourites alongside Nigeria. Placed in hotly contested Group B, the Guineas began their campaign with a tough, and at times spiteful, 2 – 2 with closest group rivals Cameroon. The following matches were equally competitive with the defending champions just edging out Algeria (1-0) and Ghana (3-1) to top the group.

The semi-final against South Africa was demanding one with the match heading into extra time after it finished 0 – 0. The Guineas were eventually able to overcome the hosts courtesy of a brace from Salimata Simporé and a Jade Boho closer. Like all their previous matches on the road to the final, the final itself was an arm wrestle between the only two winners of the tournament. This time, it was Nigeria to run out 4 – 2 winners, avenging their 2008 defeat.

### The Team

I would love to tell you plenty about the Equatorial Guinean squad but, like most of the World Cup coaches, I have seen little to no footage of the side. Made up of players with a mix of backgrounds including Brazil, Spain and Equatorial Guinea itself, the team is an enigma. Goal scoring midfielders Genoveva Anonman and Dorine Chuigoue appear to be ones to watch with their international goals, while Jade Boho was influential in the African Women's Championships. But like the rest of the world, we will be watching to see how the Guineans perform.

### Players to Watch:

Jade Boho (Forward); Genoveva Anonman (Midfielder); Dorine Chuigoue (Midfielder)

### Best Footballing Moment

Equatorial Guinea entered their second African Women's Championships in 2008 with not many expectations after a dismal first appearance. That quickly changed when they defeated Cameroon 1 – 0 in the Group A opener. A subsequent 5 – 2 win over the Congo and a 2 -1 victory over Mali pushed the Guineans into top position.

It was in the semi-finals that they really announced themselves on the football scene when they inflicted Nigeria's first ever defeat in the competition when Genoveva Añonma's goal saw them past their rivals. With the big gun out of the way, Equatorial Guinea completed a memorable tournament with a 2 – 1 win over South Africa in the final.

### World Cup Objective

With no previous world cup experience, a goal and first up points would be the minimum Equatorial Guinea will aim for.

***Ann Odong and photographer Paul Lau will be covering the Women's World Cup in Germany on GW's behalf. Prost!***

# JACK HINGERT

## Dandenong Thunder FC

PHOTO: JOHN PUNSHON

FULL NAME: Jack Hingert
BIRTHPLACE: Croydon, Surrey, England
BIRTH DATE: 26/09/1990
HEIGHT: 178cm
WEIGHT: 74kgs
MARRIED: No
CAR: Audi A4
NICKNAME: Jacky, Jacky Boy, Mingert
PREVIOUS CLUBS: Knox City, North Queensland Fury
REPRESENTATIVE HONOURS: Croydon District (England), Surrey County (England), Victorian U16's, Australia Olyroos Camps
CHILDHOOD FOOTBALL HERO: Gianfranco Zola
FAVOURITE O/S PLAYER: Dani Alves
FAVOURITE HAL PLAYER: Osama Malik
FAVOURITE CURRENT SOCCEROO: Tim Cahil
MOST MEMORABLE MATCH AS A PLAYER: Debut for North Queenland Fury
MOST MEMORABLE MATCH AS A FAN: England vs Greece, David Beckham freekick
MOST MEMORABLE GOAL YOU'VE SCORED: Don't score many goals!
EARLIEST FOOTBALL MEMORY: Playing out on the street in England with the other kids in the neighbourhood
FUNNIEST MOMENT IN FOOTBALL: Goal celebration vs Adelaide (reverse parallel park at Fury)
BIGGEST DISAPPOINTMENT: Losing 8-1 to Adelaide United!
WORST INJURY: Torn ankle ligaments, torn soleus
MOST DIFFICULT OPPONENT: Zoric
FAVOURITE AWAY GROUND: Bob Jane
SUPERSTITIONS: None
TYPICAL MATCH DAY MEAL: Chicken pasta
WHAT ARE YOUR STRENGTHS: Getting forward, endurance, speed,
WHAT ARE YOUR WEAKNESSES: Left foot
FAVOURITE TEAM WHEN GROWING UP: Chelsea FC
FAVOURITE OTHER SPORTS: Basketball, UFC
FAVOURITE OTHER SPORTSPERSON: Lebron James
FAVOURITE FOODS: Anything I cook..... amazing!
FAVOURITE ACTOR/ACTRESS: Jason Stratham
HOBBIES: Playstation
FAVOURITE HOLIDAY RESORT: Lindos, Greece
FAVOURITE NIGHTSPOT: Cafe Sienna, Chapel St
IDEAL DATE: Eva Longoria
FAVOURITE TV SHOWS: Family Guy, How I Met Your Mother, Inbetweeners
FAVOURITE MUSIC: RnB, House, Dance
FAVOURITE FILM: Stepbrothers, Laz Abiding Citizen
LAST SOCCER SHIRT YOU BOUGHT: Chelsea FC home shirt
FUNNIEST RUMOUR YOU'VE HEARD ABOUT YOURSELF: Too many to mention
BIGGEST INFLUENCE ON CAREER: Parents
FOOTBALL AMBITION: Play at the highest level possible, Overseas
WHICH PERSON IN THE WORLD WOULD YOU MOST LIKE TO MEET? : Lionel Messi
YOUR TIP FOR THIS YEAR'S HAL: Perth Glory
YOUR TIP FOR THIS YEAR'S VPL: Dandenong Thunder

# MACKENZIE AT LARGE

With Craig MacKenzie

# Greens call for visa quota

Ryan Davidson

Stuart Nicholson

Tom Matthews

Sam McIlroy

## Greens call for visa quota

**CON BIOS and John Ioannou were grim-faced when we sat down in the Bentleigh Greens committee room on Friday night for a meeting they had initiated.**

Their demeanour took me by surprise. A few minutes earlier the final whistle had sounded which was a cue for the Greens players and supporters to start celebrating a resounding 4–0 VPL win over Melbourne Knights who had ended the match with 10 men.

It was a night to remember for the home team but a Knight to forget for visiting goalkeeper Martin John who had questions to answer for three Greens goals, twice caught out in the air and once on the deck.

After the match the double doors leading to the Greens dressing room were thrown open and supporters streamed in to join in the chanting and backslapping. A beaming John Anastasiades looked well pleased with the night's work.

Soon Greens president Bios and team manager Ioannou left the happy throng and were now sitting in the committee room with me.

It didn't take long to find out why they shared such serious looks. Bios opened proceedings by naming the six players that had left the club in the previous fortnight.

Ioannou then explained the circumstances of their departures. Here in part, is what I was told.

Bentleigh alleges that Stuart Nicholson agreed to stay a fortnight back and the club paid a bond on his accommodation only to find the next day that Nicholson had signed for State One outfit Whittlesea for a purported $4000 signing-on fee.

"He kept saying that he would stay then suddenly we found out that he'd gone," said Ioannou.

The other departures were James McGarry and Ryan Davidson to Bulleen, Tom Matthews to South Melbourne, Sean McIlroy to Heidelberg and Hayden Doyle to Oakleigh.

The exits of McIlroy and Doyle didn't come as a shock because Heidelberg coach George Katsakis and Oakleigh general manager Aki Ionnas had the good grace to contact Bentleigh and alert the club to their interest in these players.

And the Matthews switch to Souths didn't come as a shock either albeit that the Greens found the circumstances of his departure extremely disappointing. Matthews had told Greens three weeks before his move that Souths were keen to get him.

What annoyed Bentleigh was its claim that once Matthews raised the alarm the club contacted Souths only to have the mooted move denied.

That alleged denial didn't amount to much come the opening of the VPL transfer window.

Then there's the matter of Davidson's switch to Bulleen.

As an aside let me tell you that Davidson's career here has been colourful to say the least.

Not long after arriving from Scotland to play for Dandenong Thunder he was involved in a claim that he played under a false name in a State One game that Thunder won.

The FFV threw out that claim when an affidavit was lodged saying that when the game in question was being played Davidson was holding a coaching clinic at Sandringham City's juniors.

What is remarkable about that affidavit is that at the time I phoned then president of Sandy juniors, Renato Fonti, who told me that as far as he was concerned no such clinic took place.

That same season Sandy seniors played Thunder in a friendly at George Andrews Reserve and I have to say that the Ryan Davidson I saw that night bore a stunning likeness to a player that scored in the match at the centre of the controversy. What an amazing coincidence, eh?

But fast forward to the present and Davidson is now at Bulleen.

Bentleigh claims that the former Hearts player spoke to them to see if they could match the Bulleen offer but the Greens refused to do so.

Bentleigh now believes that Davidson was offered $900 a game with Bulleen, $2500 to sign on and a further $2500 if the Italian-backed outfit won promotion.

On the playing side Bentleigh's response to all of this has been to sign Alex Rojas, Luke Pilkington, Michael Gwyther and Ryan de Vries.

There now are half a dozen under-21 players in the senior squad and Ioannou claims that Anastasiades has had a remarkably positive effect on the players.

"Johnny A has brought the dressing room together. It's all down to him. He's given the boys a lot of self-belief and in my time here I've never seen the playing group as close as this," he said. "From the very first session he told the boys that the long ball was out. He told them if he saw someone play a long ball he'd fine them $10 and the players reacted well to that. You could see how we played in the second half tonight. It was great to watch."

But it is the club's off-field response to the comings and goings that may well have a lasting effect.

"I have learnt a lot this year," said Bios. "I'm not going to have all these visa players in my team when I have three under-18 teams with nowhere for our young boys to go.

"And the visa players don't have contracts so they can walk out on you anytime."

Bentleigh has met with Football Federation Australia about this matter and senior coach Anastasiades and some other VPL coaches will soon meet with Football Federation Victoria president Nick Monteleone to discuss the same topic.

Bios and Ioannou want a quota placed on the number of visa players at a club, much like there was many years ago.

They argue that a team stacked with visa players simply stops younger local players from developing and they claim to have broad support throughout the VPL. They acknowledge the quality that most visa players bring to the spectacle but are adamant that FFA must step in and place a quota on their numbers.

"I think next year something might happen about this," Bios told me.

Bios recently held a meeting with two remaining visa players, Jack Webster and Wayne Wallace. Bentleigh re-affirmed its commitment to the players and the club claims that the players reciprocated.

But while the State One transfer window remains open Bios remains cautious.

Bentleigh has been receiving calls from two prominent coaches telling the club that they are going to lose all their visa players. The club now dismisses these as crank calls and does not want to name the coaches involved.

I'm sure many readers will be able to take an educated guess and in most instances come up with the right names. Just think about two prominent figures involved in the cattle market for players shunted over here from the UK.

But Bios and Ioannou want FFV to do more than implement a ceiling on the number of visa players allowed at each club.

They want the rules of competition changed to make it mandatory that three or four under-21 players be named on the senior team sheet for every game.

And in my view they are on the money.

Not only has such a rule the potential to widen another development pathway for young players it also can save clubs considerable outlays given that these youngsters would not command as much money as experienced players.

But that's all in the future and it remains to be seen how the powers that be will act.

## An inconvenient truth

**AFTER meeting with Bios and Ioannou I started thinking about the VPL and State One competitions.**

They are the only competitions under the FFV banner that are allowed to have contract players albeit that many of the players in these leagues are not under contract. In other words they are amateurs.

It is unpalatable for FFV, I know, but there is an inconvenient truth about our sport here, one that is usually only mentioned in hushed tones in dimly lit alleyways.

And it is simply this – the two pillars on which our showcase league and State One are built are tax avoidance and a flagrant breach of the rules of competition.

The match payments floated in this column are going to non-contract players who are not supposed to be paid more than $100 a game. As for taxing their payments, well, what do you think happens?

And all of this takes place under a veil of legitimacy where leading administrators, politicians and sponsors pat each other on the back and pontificate about how well the sport is developing.

You can be involved in Victorian football without having a sense of the ridiculous but I can assure you it helps to have one.

While the onus is not on FFV to do something about the tax situation it can open its eyes to the realities of competition and lobby FFA to do likewise.

Those bodies need to acknowledge that capping payments to non-contract players at $100 is ludicrous. On top of that it is impossible to police.

It makes a farce of our rules of competition. Its continued existence and FFV's failure to enforce it open up the federation and our sport to public ridicule.

## A pair of old crocks

**SAW a couple of rehab patients huddled up next to each other in Langwarrin's clubrooms on Saturday afternoon.**

One of the two men was balancing precariously on crutches while the other had his right arm in a sling. They were deep in conversation and for all I knew they were discussing their respective occupational therapy or physiotherapy programs.

But a closer look revealed them to be former VPL coaches Doug Hodgson and Chris Taylor.

Both had undergone reconstructive surgery and it looked like Taylor had come off worse for wear after his second hip operation.

Looking at them made me wonder how two coaches with their CVs could be languishing on the sidelines for so long.

I've discussed this with Taylor before and he seems content to be off the scene right now. I suspect Hodgson feels the same.

But I wonder how long it will be before a club comes knocking on their doors once more.

Chris Taylor

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# Lower sides enjoy victories as WPL resumes

By Niki Cook

**Returning to action after a break for the long weekend, Round 11 of the Victorian Women's Premier League saw victories for some of the lower sides on the ladder. Altona, Ashburton and the EAP all enjoyed victories, while Bundoora and Box Hill split the points. Casey Comets remains top of the pile, despite suffering an upset loss at Altona.**

The Emerging Athlete Program has played twice since the last round, experiencing some success. It played out a 2-2 draw with Altona City on the Wednesday prior to the long weekend, and it went one better last Wednesday, defeating Ashburton 2-1. Kate Fotopoulos opened the scoring for the EAP after seventeen minutes, before Christine Pfeiffer equalised five minutes later. The EAP left it late to find the winner, with Tayla Mure scoring seven minutes from time to give her team its fourth victory of the season. The EAP remains ninth on the ladder, now with thirteen points from eleven games.

Bundoora United and Box Hill United both missed the chance to significantly close the gap on the top four, when their match at Epping Soccer Stadium on Saturday ended in a draw. The first half ended goalless, and with each team scoring once in the second half, the points were shared in the 1-1 draw. Box Hill remains fifth, now with eighteen points, while Bundoora is a point further back in sixth.

Altona City continued its run of good results when it produced the upset of the round, defeating ladder leader Casey Comets 2-1 at HC Kim Reserve on Sunday. After a poor start to the season, Altona has lifted in recent weeks, having now lost just once in its last six matches. In this match, Ellvana Curo opened the scoring for the home side, before Casey equalised through a headed goal. One all at half time, Altona secured the three points in the second half through a Katia Tavolaro goal. The win ensures that Altona keeps up the pressure on Ashburton, which sits two points ahead of it. Despite this, its third defeat of the season, Casey Comets remains at the top of the ladder at the end of the weekend, but it will be overtaken should Sandringham win on Monday night.

Ashburton bounced back from its midweek defeat to record its second victory in three games as it saw off VCL Country 3-0 at Ashburton Park on Sunday afternoon. A two-goal burst just before half time put the home side on the way to victory, with Seyma Erenli and Chloe Drinoczky both finding the net. Liesl Woods iced the win with a third Ashburton goal six minutes from time. With Altona City having a resurgence, these recent victories are vital for Ashburton, so that it remains ahead of its rival and out of the relegation places. Ashburton is seventh on the ladder, while VCL Country remains tenth.

The two remaining matches in the round, Sandringham against Doncaster Rovers, and Heidelberg United versus South Melbourne Women's took place on Monday night.

Round 12 begins as usual on Wednesday night, when the EAP travels to Epping Soccer Stadium to take on Bundoora United. Wednesday also features a catch up match, with Ashburton hosting Altona City at White Eagles Stadium in their rescheduled Round 9 game. It is a virtual six-pointer for both teams, given that they are the two teams currently most likely to be fighting to avoid the second relegation spot. Friday night also features two matches, with Doncaster Rovers having to back up rapidly after its Monday night game, when it hosts Casey Comets at Anderson Park, while at Wembley Park, Box Hill United takes on Heidelberg United.

On Saturday night South Melbourne Women's welcomes Ashburton to Paisley Park, while on Sunday VCL Country and Altona City will face off at DISC. The final match of the round is at Kingston Heath Soccer Complex on Monday evening, between Sandringham and Bundoora United.

Stephanie Galea (Bundoora) displays classic hurdling form as she clears Kat Smith (Box Hill) in her effort to zero in on goal. Photo: JOHN PUNSHON

Bundoora's Lucrece Laverdure (left) clashes with Box Hill's Ruby Foottit. Photo: JOHN PUNSHON

Louisa Bisby (Box Hill) goes full stretch to try and get the ball past Bundoora's Megan Archer (left) and Melissa Missailidis Photo: JOHN PUNSHON

Lucrece Laverdure's low shot has beaten Jessica Humble's effort to block it and is about to beat the keeper to give Bundoora a 1-0 lead over Box Hill)Photo: JOHN PUNSHON

## WPL RESULTS

Bundoora Utd 1
Box Hill United 1

Altona City 2
Casey Comets 1

Ashburton 3
VCL Country 0

**Res:**
Bundoora Utd 1
Box Hill United 2

Altona City 2
Casey Comets 3

## WPL LADDER

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Casey Comets | 12 | 8 | 1 | 3 | 29 | 14 | 25 |
| Sandringham | 11 | 8 | 0 | 3 | 27 | 9 | 24 |
| Heidelberg Utd | 11 | 7 | 1 | 3 | 20 | 16 | 22 |
| South Melb | 11 | 6 | 2 | 3 | 26 | 11 | 20 |
| Box Hill United | 12 | 5 | 3 | 4 | 20 | 19 | 18 |
| Bundoora Utd | 12 | 5 | 2 | 5 | 17 | 13 | 17 |
| Ashburton | 12 | 5 | 1 | 6 | 20 | 21 | 16 |
| Altona City | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 15 | 21 | 14 |
| Emerging Ath | 11 | 4 | 1 | 6 | 22 | 29 | 13 |
| VCL Country | 12 | 3 | 0 | 9 | 11 | 31 | 6 |
| Doncaster R | 11 | 1 | 1 | 9 | 8 | 31 | 4 |

## WPL Next Round

**Emerging Athlete v Bundoora Utd**
*DISC*
*Wed 22 Jun KO 7:30PM*

**Doncaster Rovers v Casey Comets**
*Anderson Park*
*Fri 24 Jun KO 8:30PM*

**Box Hill United v Heidelberg Utd**
*Wembley Park*
*Fri 24 Jun KO 8:30PM*

**South Melbourne v Ashburton**
*Paisley Park Socce...*
*Sat 25 Jun KO 7:30PM*

**VCL Country v Altona City**
*DISC*
*Sun 26 Jun KO 3:00PM*

**Sandringham SC v Bundoora Utd**
*Kingston Heath Soc...*
*Mon 27 Jun KO 8:30PM*

## WPL RESERVES LADDER

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Box Hill United | 10 | 10 | 0 | 0 | 43 | 7 | 30 |
| South Melb | 09 | 6 | 2 | 1 | 26 | 10 | 20 |
| Sandringham | 08 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 10 | 6 | 13 |
| Bundoora Utd | 10 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 9 | 12 | 12 |
| Casey Comets | 10 | 3 | 2 | 5 | 20 | 21 | 11 |
| Ashburton | 08 | 3 | 0 | 5 | 18 | 17 | 9 |
| Heidelberg Utd | 09 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 13 | 21 | 9 |
| Altona City | 09 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 9 | 23 | 9 |
| Doncaster R | 09 | 0 | 2 | 7 | 8 | 39 | 2 |
| Emerging Ath | 0 | | | | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| VCL Country | 0 | | | | 0 | 0 | 0 |

# Results & Ladders

# Victorian State & Provisional Leagues - Round 10

## Seniors — STATE NORTH WEST 2 — Reserves

Geelong 2 Williamstown 0, Whittlesea Ranges FC 0 FC Clifton Hill 0, Altona East Phoenix 0 Werribee City 1, Ballarat Red Devils 5 Westgate 1, Banyule City 2 Altona City 4 (K Gjergjaj M Mintoff 2 J Little), Moreland City 1 Brunswick City 2

Geelong 1 Williamstown 2 (K Caruana Z Dusenko), Whittlesea Ranges FC 3 FC Clifton Hill 5, Altona East Phoenix 3 Werribee City 5, Ballarat Red Devils 2 Westgate 1, Banyule City 0 Altona City 0, Moreland City 1 Brunswick City 1

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | PT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Moreland City | 10 | 7 | 0 | 3 | 34 | 16 | 21 |
| Werribee City | 10 | 7 | 2 | 1 | 17 | 8 | 20 |
| Whittlesea Ranges FC | 09 | 5 | 4 | 0 | 14 | 4 | 19 |
| Brunswick City | 10 | 6 | 2 | 2 | 21 | 11 | 17 |
| Ballarat Red Devils | 10 | 5 | 2 | 3 | 21 | 15 | 17 |
| FC Clifton Hill | 10 | 5 | 3 | 2 | 14 | 11 | 15 |
| Westgate | 10 | 5 | 0 | 5 | 18 | 21 | 12 |
| Altona East Phoenix | 10 | 3 | 2 | 5 | 15 | 17 | 11 |
| Geelong | 10 | 3 | 2 | 5 | 16 | 24 | 11 |
| Williamstown | 09 | 1 | 2 | 6 | 4 | 17 | 5 |
| Altona City | 10 | 1 | 1 | 8 | 10 | 22 | 4 |
| Banyule City | 10 | 0 | 2 | 8 | 9 | 27 | 2 |

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | PT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Werribee City | 10 | 6 | 2 | 2 | 22 | 16 | 20 |
| Moreland City | 09 | 6 | 1 | 2 | 33 | 13 | 19 |
| Brunswick City | 10 | 5 | 2 | 3 | 22 | 15 | 17 |
| Williamstown | 08 | 5 | 2 | 1 | 13 | 6 | 17 |
| Banyule City | 10 | 5 | 2 | 3 | 15 | 11 | 17 |
| Altona East Phoenix | 10 | 5 | 1 | 4 | 18 | 19 | 16 |
| Ballarat Red Devils | 10 | 4 | 3 | 3 | 14 | 13 | 15 |
| FC Clifton Hill | 10 | 4 | 2 | 4 | 19 | 25 | 14 |
| Westgate | 10 | 3 | 1 | 6 | 11 | 13 | 10 |
| Whittlesea Ranges FC | 09 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 19 | 21 | 9 |
| Altona City | 10 | 2 | 2 | 6 | 15 | 28 | 8 |
| Geelong | 10 | 0 | 1 | 9 | 6 | 27 | 1 |

## Seniors — STATE SOUTH EAST 2 — Reserves

Doncaster Rovers 1 Knox City 0, Casey Comets 3 Malvern City 1, Eastern Lions 0 Heatherton Utd 0, Noble Park Utd 0 Dandenong City 1, South Springvale 0 Morwell Pegasus 2, Box Hill United 3 Diamond Valley Utd 1

Doncaster Rovers 3 Knox City 5, Casey Comets 2 Malvern City 3, Eastern Lions 0 Heatherton Utd 1, Noble Park Utd 1 (F Dilbaz) Dandenong City 2, South Springvale Morwell Pegasus , Box Hill United 4 Diamond Valley Utd 0

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | PT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Dandenong City | 10 | 8 | 0 | 2 | 24 | 9 | 24 |
| Eastern Lions | 10 | 5 | 3 | 2 | 18 | 9 | 18 |
| Box Hill United | 10 | 5 | 3 | 2 | 18 | 12 | 18 |
| Malvern City | 10 | 6 | 0 | 4 | 25 | 22 | 18 |
| Casey Comets | 10 | 5 | 1 | 4 | 20 | 12 | 16 |
| Noble Park Utd | 10 | 5 | 1 | 4 | 17 | 14 | 16 |
| South Springvale | 10 | 4 | 2 | 4 | 14 | 17 | 14 |
| Morwell Pegasus | 10 | 4 | 1 | 5 | 18 | 16 | 13 |
| Diamond Valley Utd | 10 | 3 | 4 | 3 | 19 | 24 | 13 |
| Heatherton Utd | 10 | 2 | 2 | 6 | 11 | 19 | 8 |
| Doncaster Rovers | 10 | 2 | 1 | 7 | 8 | 20 | 7 |
| Knox City | 10 | 1 | 2 | 7 | 9 | 27 | 5 |

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | PT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Knox City | 10 | 7 | 1 | 2 | 30 | 17 | 22 |
| Box Hill United | 10 | 4 | 5 | 1 | 17 | 10 | 17 |
| Noble Park Utd | 10 | 5 | 1 | 4 | 24 | 19 | 16 |
| Eastern Lions | 10 | 4 | 4 | 2 | 15 | 15 | 16 |
| Malvern City | 10 | 4 | 3 | 3 | 20 | 15 | 15 |
| Doncaster Rovers | 10 | 4 | 2 | 4 | 25 | 19 | 14 |
| Dandenong City | 09 | 3 | 4 | 2 | 12 | 14 | 13 |
| Diamond Valley Utd | 10 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 15 | 23 | 12 |
| Casey Comets | 10 | 3 | 2 | 5 | 23 | 17 | 11 |
| South Springvale | 09 | 3 | 1 | 5 | 10 | 20 | 10 |
| Heatherton Utd | 09 | 2 | 2 | 5 | 11 | 23 | 8 |
| Morwell Pegasus | 09 | 1 | 2 | 6 | 14 | 24 | 5 |

## Seniors — STATE NORTH WEST 3 — Reserves

Cairnlea 1 (M Karakilic) Maribyrnong Greens 3, Hume Utd 0 Avondale Heights 1, Keilor Park 4 (L Carbone 2 G Mussel 2) Geelong Rangers 2, Sunbury Utd 0 La Trobe University 2, Whittlesea Utd 2 (V Kalayci E Koc) Sydenham Park 1, Melbourne University 1 (B Mitchell) Yarraville Glory 1

Cairnlea 4 Maribyrnong Greens 4, Hume Utd 2 Avondale Heights 1, Keilor Park 10 (J Bruzzichessi 4 P Carbone J Ioannidis B Scerri M Dragovic AA Gusman M McGroarty) Geelong Rangers 1, Sunbury Utd 1 La Trobe University 1, Whittlesea Utd 7 (G Ozgun 3 R Abdella G Tam H Azer 2) Sydenham Park 0, Melbourne University 6 (A Ng 2 S Merritt B Cameron D Hynes 2) Yarraville Glory 0

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | PT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Keilor Park | 10 | 7 | 3 | 0 | 21 | 6 | 24 |
| Avondale Heights | 10 | 5 | 3 | 2 | 15 | 14 | 18 |
| Yarraville Glory | 10 | 5 | 2 | 3 | 17 | 10 | 17 |
| La Trobe University | 10 | 5 | 1 | 4 | 14 | 11 | 16 |
| Cairnlea | 10 | 4 | 3 | 3 | 17 | 16 | 15 |
| Hume Utd | 10 | 4 | 2 | 4 | 16 | 14 | 14 |
| Melbourne University | 10 | 4 | 2 | 4 | 14 | 12 | 14 |
| Sydenham Park | 10 | 4 | 1 | 5 | 20 | 20 | 13 |
| Maribyrnong Greens | 10 | 3 | 1 | 6 | 22 | 26 | 10 |
| Whittlesea Utd | 10 | 3 | 1 | 6 | 14 | 25 | 10 |
| Geelong Rangers | 10 | 2 | 3 | 5 | 14 | 25 | 9 |
| Sunbury Utd | 10 | 2 | 2 | 6 | 11 | 16 | 8 |

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | PT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Keilor Park | 10 | 7 | 2 | 1 | 47 | 13 | 23 |
| Whittlesea Utd | 10 | 7 | 1 | 2 | 37 | 9 | 22 |
| Sunbury Utd | 10 | 6 | 4 | 0 | 29 | 10 | 22 |
| La Trobe University | 10 | 6 | 3 | 1 | 33 | 14 | 21 |
| Avondale Heights | 10 | 4 | 1 | 5 | 20 | 17 | 13 |
| Hume Utd | 10 | 4 | 1 | 5 | 25 | 41 | 13 |
| Yarraville Glory | 10 | 4 | 1 | 5 | 20 | 36 | 13 |
| Melbourne University | 10 | 3 | 2 | 5 | 18 | 16 | 11 |
| Sydenham Park | 10 | 3 | 2 | 5 | 22 | 28 | 11 |
| Cairnlea | 10 | 3 | 1 | 6 | 22 | 37 | 10 |
| Geelong Rangers | 10 | 2 | 0 | 8 | 8 | 36 | 6 |
| Maribyrnong Greens | 10 | 1 | 2 | 7 | 20 | 44 | 5 |

## Seniors — STATE SOUTH EAST 3 — Reserves

Berwick City 2 Kingston City 2 (N Tolios A Stavridis), Croydon City Arrows 2 (M Rivera D Brickell) Peninsula Strikers 2 (T Papadopoulos N Henry), Old Scotch 0 Nunawading City FC 2, Mornington 4 Doveton 1, Frankston Pines 0 Waverley Wanderers 1

Berwick City 2 (J Fernand B Thomas) Kingston City 1, Croydon City Arrows 0 Peninsula Strikers 1, Old Scotch 4 Nunawading City FC 0, Mornington 4 (N Waite C Leopold M Morris-Thomas C Stewart) Doveton 4, Frankston Pines 1 Waverley Wanderers 5

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | PT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Mornington | 10 | 8 | 0 | 2 | 30 | 11 | 24 |
| Kingston City | 10 | 6 | 3 | 1 | 23 | 9 | 21 |
| Old Scotch | 10 | 6 | 1 | 3 | 18 | 13 | 19 |
| Fitzroy City | 09 | 6 | 0 | 3 | 20 | 14 | 18 |
| Doveton | 10 | 5 | 1 | 4 | 20 | 13 | 16 |
| Berwick City | 10 | 4 | 1 | 5 | 14 | 18 | 13 |
| Peninsula Strikers | 10 | 3 | 4 | 3 | 20 | 29 | 13 |
| North Caulfield | 09 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 17 | 11 | 12 |
| Nunawading City FC | 10 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 12 | 17 | 12 |
| Waverley Wanderers | 10 | 2 | 2 | 6 | 12 | 16 | 8 |
| Croydon City Arrows | 10 | 2 | 2 | 6 | 18 | 23 | 8 |
| Frankston Pines | 10 | 0 | 2 | 8 | 8 | 38 | 2 |

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | PT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Kingston City | 10 | 9 | 0 | 1 | 32 | 10 | 27 |
| Old Scotch | 10 | 7 | 1 | 2 | 25 | 14 | 22 |
| Fitzroy City | 09 | 6 | 2 | 1 | 19 | 16 | 20 |
| Waverley Wanderers | 10 | 4 | 4 | 2 | 31 | 26 | 16 |
| Berwick City | 10 | 5 | 1 | 4 | 25 | 21 | 16 |
| Croydon City Arrows | 10 | 4 | 2 | 4 | 27 | 23 | 14 |
| Mornington | 10 | 4 | 2 | 4 | 27 | 25 | 14 |
| Peninsula Strikers | 10 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 17 | 18 | 12 |
| North Caulfield | 09 | 3 | 2 | 4 | 24 | 22 | 11 |
| Doveton | 10 | 3 | 2 | 5 | 16 | 17 | 11 |
| Nunawading City FC | 10 | 1 | 1 | 8 | 19 | 36 | 4 |
| Frankston Pines | 10 | 0 | 0 | 10 | 9 | 43 | 0 |

## Seniors — PROVI 1 NORTH WEST — Reserves

Laverton Park 2 Sporting Whittlesea FC 3, Northern Falcons 1 (F Pizzo) North Sunshine Eagles 5, South Yarra 5 (S Noade 3 S Adams AL Vernals) FC Strathmore 0, Western Eagles 1 Westvale 1, Essendon Utd 0 North City Lions 3 (H Ntakirutimana K Ayache M Schiafone), Surf Coast 3 Corio 2

Laverton Park 1 Sporting Whittlesea FC 2, Northern Falcons 2 North Sunshine Eagles 3, South Yarra 1 (S Peutherer) FC Strathmore 0, Western Eagles 2 Westvale 2, Essendon Utd 3 North City Lions 4 (D Grech A- Pizzingrilli A Thomas D Cannizzaro), Surf Coast 3 Corio 1

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | PT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Corio | 10 | 7 | 1 | 2 | 28 | 13 | 22 |
| South Yarra | 10 | 6 | 1 | 3 | 21 | 12 | 19 |
| Sporting Whittlesea FC | 10 | 6 | 1 | 3 | 17 | 12 | 19 |
| North Sunshine Eagles | 10 | 5 | 3 | 2 | 26 | 15 | 18 |
| North City Lions | 10 | 5 | 2 | 3 | 19 | 17 | 17 |
| Westvale | 10 | 2 | 7 | 1 | 14 | 10 | 13 |
| Northern Falcons | 10 | 4 | 0 | 6 | 10 | 23 | 12 |
| Surf Coast | 10 | 3 | 2 | 5 | 15 | 20 | 11 |
| Laverton Park | 10 | 3 | 2 | 5 | 13 | 20 | 11 |
| Western Eagles | 10 | 3 | 1 | 6 | 16 | 16 | 10 |
| FC Strathmore | 10 | 2 | 3 | 5 | 17 | 27 | 9 |
| Essendon Utd | 10 | 2 | 1 | 7 | 11 | 22 | 7 |

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | PT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| South Yarra | 10 | 10 | 0 | 0 | 32 | 3 | 30 |
| North Sunshine Eagles | 10 | 8 | 1 | 1 | 32 | 15 | 25 |
| Surf Coast | 10 | 6 | 2 | 2 | 24 | 13 | 20 |
| Sporting Whittlesea FC | 10 | 5 | 3 | 2 | 28 | 18 | 18 |
| Westvale | 10 | 4 | 2 | 4 | 19 | 12 | 14 |
| FC Strathmore | 10 | 4 | 1 | 5 | 20 | 22 | 13 |
| Corio | 10 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 23 | 17 | 12 |
| Laverton Park | 10 | 4 | 0 | 6 | 17 | 28 | 12 |
| North City Lions | 10 | 2 | 3 | 5 | 18 | 22 | 9 |
| Northern Falcons | 10 | 2 | 2 | 6 | 16 | 45 | 8 |
| Essendon Utd | 10 | 1 | 2 | 7 | 15 | 30 | 5 |
| Western Eagles | 10 | 0 | 3 | 7 | 10 | 29 | 3 |

## Seniors — PROVI 1 SOUTH EAST — Reserves

Warragul Utd 0 Sandringham SC 1, Brandon Park 0 Old Melburnians 1, Skye Utd 4 (J Roach 2 C Espinoza V Villella) Monash University 3, Old Camberwell Grammar 3 Hampton Park United Sparrows 1, Mooroolbark 0 Beaumaris 4, Springvale City 9 Lyndale Utd 2

Warragul Utd 3 (L McDonald F Albanese 2) Sandringham SC 2, Brandon Park 1 Old Melburnians 1, Skye Utd 0 Monash University 0, Old Camberwell Grammar Hampton Park United Sparrows Football Club , Mooroolbark 6 (BW Henriques 2 D Shields 2 K Coe B Sharland) Beaumaris 1, Springvale City 3 Lyndale Utd 3

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | PT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Beaumaris | 10 | 8 | 0 | 2 | 30 | 21 | 24 |
| Springvale City | 10 | 7 | 2 | 1 | 26 | 8 | 23 |
| Warragul Utd | 10 | 6 | 2 | 2 | 22 | 8 | 20 |
| Old Melburnians | 10 | 5 | 3 | 2 | 29 | 17 | 18 |
| Hampton Park United | 09 | 4 | 4 | 1 | 20 | 16 | 16 |
| Sandringham SC | 10 | 5 | 1 | 4 | 22 | 17 | 13 |
| Mooroolbark | 10 | 3 | 2 | 5 | 18 | 26 | 11 |
| Old Camberwell Grammar | 10 | 3 | 1 | 6 | 12 | 16 | 10 |
| Skye Utd | 10 | 2 | 1 | 7 | 18 | 28 | 7 |
| Brandon Park | 10 | 2 | 1 | 7 | 7 | 19 | 7 |
| Lyndale Utd | 10 | 1 | 4 | 5 | 14 | 30 | 7 |
| Monash University | 09 | 1 | 3 | 5 | 14 | 26 | 6 |

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | PT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Mooroolbark | 10 | 8 | 1 | 1 | 42 | 15 | 25 |
| Sandringham SC | 10 | 7 | 1 | 2 | 34 | 14 | 19 |
| Monash University | 09 | 5 | 4 | 0 | 21 | 10 | 19 |
| Warragul Utd | 09 | 5 | 1 | 3 | 25 | 18 | 16 |
| Old Melburnians | 09 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 21 | 8 | 14 |
| Beaumaris | 09 | 3 | 2 | 4 | 19 | 22 | 11 |
| Skye Utd | 09 | 2 | 5 | 2 | 16 | 20 | 11 |
| Old Camberwell Grammar | 09 | 3 | 2 | 4 | 13 | 18 | 11 |
| Brandon Park | 10 | 1 | 4 | 5 | 10 | 27 | 7 |
| Lyndale Utd | 10 | 1 | 3 | 6 | 14 | 26 | 6 |
| Springvale City | 09 | 1 | 2 | 6 | 9 | 23 | 5 |
| Hampton Park United | 07 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 7 | 30 | 4 |

## Seniors — PROVI 2 NORTH WEST — Reserves

Bell Park 1 Epping City 3, Elwood City 6 Melbourne City 0, Hoppers Crossing 1 (M Jablonski) West Preston 2 (T Alessandrino PP Haloulos), Lalor Utd 3 Melbourne Tornado 1, Plenty Valley Lions 2 (D Stojanovski N Filin) Moreland Utd 0, Upfield 1 Northern Roosters 1

Bell Park 1 Epping City 0, Elwood City 2 Melbourne City 0, Hoppers Crossing 8 West Preston 1, Lalor Utd 2 Melbourne Tornado 0, Plenty Valley Lions 1 Moreland Utd 2, Upfield 5 Northern Roosters 1

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | PT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| West Preston | 10 | 7 | 2 | 1 | 19 | 11 | 23 |
| Moreland Utd | 11 | 6 | 3 | 2 | 17 | 11 | 21 |
| Epping City | 10 | 6 | 1 | 3 | 24 | 14 | 19 |
| Hoppers Crossing | 10 | 6 | 0 | 4 | 22 | 16 | 18 |
| Upfield | 11 | 5 | 2 | 4 | 21 | 13 | 17 |
| Lalor Utd | 10 | 5 | 1 | 4 | 18 | 19 | 16 |
| Plenty Valley Lions | 10 | 5 | 1 | 4 | 14 | 17 | 16 |
| Elwood City | 10 | 3 | 2 | 5 | 22 | 21 | 11 |
| Melbourne Tornado | 10 | 3 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 24 | 11 |
| Bell Park | 10 | 3 | 0 | 7 | 17 | 17 | 9 |
| Northern Roosters | 10 | 2 | 2 | 6 | 13 | 19 | 8 |
| Melbourne City | 10 | 2 | 0 | 8 | 10 | 29 | 6 |

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | PT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Upfield | 10 | 9 | 1 | 0 | 33 | 11 | 28 |
| Elwood City | 10 | 7 | 1 | 2 | 34 | 16 | 22 |
| Epping City | 10 | 7 | 0 | 3 | 22 | 14 | 21 |
| Lalor Utd | 10 | 6 | 1 | 3 | 18 | 11 | 19 |
| Hoppers Crossing | 10 | 6 | 0 | 4 | 27 | 11 | 18 |
| Bell Park | 10 | 4 | 3 | 3 | 13 | 12 | 15 |
| Moreland Utd | 10 | 4 | 1 | 5 | 11 | 13 | 13 |
| Northern Roosters | 10 | 3 | 2 | 5 | 22 | 29 | 11 |
| Melbourne Tornado | 10 | 3 | 1 | 6 | 26 | 31 | 10 |
| Plenty Valley Lions | 10 | 2 | 1 | 7 | 13 | 26 | 7 |
| West Preston | 10 | 1 | 2 | 7 | 21 | 40 | 5 |
| Melbourne City | 10 | 1 | 1 | 8 | 8 | 34 | 4 |

## Seniors — PROVI 2 SOUTH EAST — Reserves

Monbulk Endeavour Utd , Riversdale 3 (A Robertson K Crnic A Anagnostopoulos) Casey Kings 1, Ashburton United 1 (JA Clemson) Caulfield United Cobras SC 1, Keysborough 0 Old Carey 2, Uni. of Melbourne 4 (R Gough AD Pedrana T Sloan R Potter) Boroondara Eagles 3, Bayside Argonauts 1 Seaford Utd 3

Monbulk 3 Endeavour Utd 0, Riversdale 2 Casey Kings 0, Ashburton United 1 Caulfield United Cobras SC 5, Keysborough 0 Old Carey 2, Uni. of Melbourne 1 (S Pickering) Boroondara Eagles 0, Bayside Argonauts 0 Seaford Utd 0

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | PT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Bayside Argonauts | 10 | 5 | 2 | 3 | 23 | 14 | 17 |
| Old Carey | 10 | 5 | 2 | 3 | 18 | 15 | 17 |
| Monbulk | 10 | 5 | 2 | 3 | 17 | 12 | 16 |
| Seaford Utd | 10 | 5 | 1 | 4 | 22 | 20 | 16 |
| Riversdale | 10 | 5 | 1 | 4 | 17 | 17 | 16 |
| Caulfield United Cobras | 10 | 3 | 5 | 2 | 17 | 19 | 14 |
| Endeavour Utd | 10 | 4 | 2 | 4 | 13 | 13 | 13 |
| Keysborough | 10 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 19 | 16 | 12 |
| Ashburton United | 10 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 14 | 19 | 12 |
| Casey Kings | 10 | 3 | 5 | 2 | 23 | 18 | 11 |
| Boroondara Eagles | 10 | 2 | 2 | 6 | 16 | 22 | 8 |
| Uni. of Melbourne | 10 | 2 | 2 | 6 | 14 | 28 | 8 |

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | PT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Monbulk | 10 | 7 | 2 | 1 | 33 | 9 | 23 |
| Keysborough | 10 | 6 | 2 | 2 | 35 | 23 | 20 |
| Caulfield United Cobras | 10 | 6 | 1 | 3 | 17 | 9 | 19 |
| Uni. of Melbourne | 10 | 6 | 0 | 4 | 17 | 16 | 18 |
| Endeavour Utd | 10 | 5 | 2 | 3 | 16 | 10 | 17 |
| Ashburton United | 10 | 5 | 1 | 4 | 22 | 18 | 16 |
| Seaford Utd | 10 | 5 | 1 | 4 | 22 | 18 | 16 |
| Old Carey | 10 | 4 | 3 | 3 | 13 | 11 | 15 |
| Bayside Argonauts | 10 | 4 | 1 | 5 | 21 | 17 | 13 |
| Riversdale | 10 | 3 | 0 | 7 | 12 | 24 | 9 |
| Boroondara Eagles | 10 | 1 | 1 | 8 | 10 | 27 | 4 |
| Casey Kings | 10 | 0 | 2 | 8 | 8 | 44 | -1 |

## Seniors — PROVI 3 NORTH WEST — Reserves

Balmoral FC 0 Darebin Utd 3 (S Kalona J Nikolarakos F Mellios), Brimbank Stallions 1 (L Mariona) Youth Utd 0, Essendon Royals 4 (S Mungherli M Strasser A Sirin 2) Moreland Wolves 4, Heidelberg Stars 2 (N Yussuf H Abdi) Brunswick Zebras 1, Meadow Park Eagles 2 (L Rinaldi MS Chiera) Mill Park 1, Melton Phoenix FC 1 (L Usher) Watsonia Heights 1

Balmoral FC 3 (M Hot A Ibrahim 2) Darebin Utd 2, Brimbank Stallions 4 Youth Utd 0, Essendon Royals 2 (A Erden R Marchioli) Moreland Wolves 1, Heidelberg Stars 6 Brunswick Zebras 2, Meadow Park Eagles 1 Mill Park 0, Melton Phoenix FC 0 Watsonia Heights 2

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | PT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Essendon Royals | 10 | 7 | 2 | 1 | 34 | 20 | 23 |
| Heidelberg Stars | 10 | 7 | 1 | 2 | 23 | 15 | 22 |
| Brunswick Zebras | 10 | 6 | 1 | 3 | 29 | 18 | 19 |
| Moreland Wolves | 10 | 6 | 1 | 3 | 28 | 19 | 19 |
| Brimbank Stallions | 10 | 6 | 2 | 2 | 25 | 15 | 17 |
| Darebin Utd | 10 | 5 | 1 | 4 | 14 | 14 | 16 |
| Meadow Park Eagles | 10 | 4 | 2 | 4 | 20 | 22 | 14 |
| Watsonia Heights | 10 | 4 | 1 | 5 | 23 | 17 | 13 |
| Youth Utd | 10 | 3 | 1 | 6 | 14 | 24 | 10 |
| Balmoral FC | 10 | 2 | 3 | 5 | 29 | 29 | 9 |
| Mill Park | 10 | 1 | 1 | 8 | 6 | 30 | 4 |
| Melton Phoenix FC | 10 | 0 | 2 | 8 | 7 | 29 | 2 |

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | PT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Watsonia Heights | 10 | 10 | 0 | 0 | 41 | 6 | 30 |
| Heidelberg Stars | 10 | 7 | 1 | 2 | 57 | 20 | 22 |
| Brimbank Stallions | 10 | 7 | 0 | 3 | 20 | 10 | 18 |
| Moreland Wolves | 10 | 5 | 2 | 3 | 24 | 15 | 17 |
| Melton Phoenix FC | 10 | 5 | 1 | 4 | 16 | 18 | 16 |
| Essendon Royals | 10 | 5 | 0 | 5 | 25 | 17 | 15 |
| Brunswick Zebras | 10 | 4 | 2 | 4 | 24 | 18 | 14 |
| Youth Utd | 10 | 3 | 1 | 6 | 19 | 34 | 10 |
| Meadow Park Eagles | 10 | 3 | 1 | 6 | 7 | 43 | 10 |
| Balmoral FC | 10 | 2 | 3 | 5 | 16 | 20 | 9 |
| Darebin Utd | 10 | 2 | 1 | 7 | 11 | 26 | 7 |
| Mill Park | 10 | 1 | 0 | 9 | 4 | 37 | 3 |

## Seniors — PROVI 3 SOUTH EAST — Reserves

Baxter 6 (F Beck 3 R Wilson B Ingram 2) White Star Dandenong 0, Collingwood City 7 (G Papageorgiou I Skukan 2 M Fox T Jones-Roberts 2 R Mcneice) East Bentleigh 0, Noble Park 1 Whitehorse Utd 2, Old Trinity Grammarians 1 Eltham Redback FC 1 (LA Robertson), Rowville Eagles 0 Old Brighton Grammarians 3, Brighton 0 Middle Park FC 2

Baxter 5 (B Norris 2 B Ingram C Disseldorp R Thompson) White Star Dandenong 4, Collingwood City 4 East Bentleigh 0, Noble Park 2 Whitehorse Utd 7, Old Trinity Grammarians 0 Eltham Redback FC 2, Rowville Eagles 0 Old Brighton Grammarians 3, Brighton 1 (C Ogden) Middle Park FC 6

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | PT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Middle Park FC | 10 | 10 | 0 | 0 | 45 | 7 | 30 |
| Collingwood City | 10 | 9 | 0 | 1 | 29 | 11 | 27 |
| Whitehorse Utd | 10 | 7 | 1 | 2 | 21 | 13 | 22 |
| Rowville Eagles | 10 | 5 | 2 | 3 | 26 | 20 | 17 |
| Old Brighton Grammarians | 10 | 5 | 1 | 4 | 25 | 18 | 16 |
| White Star Dandenong | 10 | 4 | 0 | 6 | 18 | 32 | 12 |
| Old Trinity Grammarians | 10 | 3 | 2 | 5 | 19 | 27 | 11 |
| Noble Park | 10 | 3 | 1 | 6 | 22 | 26 | 10 |
| Brighton | 10 | 3 | 1 | 6 | 18 | 23 | 10 |
| Baxter | 10 | 3 | 1 | 6 | 21 | 27 | 10 |
| Eltham Redback FC | 10 | 2 | 2 | 6 | 12 | 25 | 8 |
| East Bentleigh | 10 | 0 | 1 | 9 | 12 | 39 | 1 |

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | PT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Old Brighton Grammarians | 10 | 9 | 0 | 1 | 27 | 14 | 27 |
| Collingwood City | 09 | 7 | 1 | 1 | 38 | 8 | 22 |
| Middle Park FC | 10 | 6 | 2 | 2 | 30 | 12 | 20 |
| Brighton | 10 | 6 | 2 | 2 | 22 | 19 | 20 |
| Baxter | 10 | 6 | 1 | 3 | 33 | 25 | 19 |
| Whitehorse Utd | 10 | 5 | 1 | 4 | 29 | 22 | 16 |
| Old Trinity Grammarians | 09 | 5 | 1 | 3 | 21 | 14 | 16 |
| Rowville Eagles | 10 | 3 | 1 | 6 | 16 | 26 | 10 |
| Eltham Redback FC | 10 | 2 | 1 | 7 | 8 | 23 | 7 |
| White Star Dandenong | 10 | 2 | 0 | 8 | 25 | 33 | 6 |
| Noble Park | 10 | 1 | 1 | 8 | 13 | 42 | 4 |
| East Bentleigh | 10 | 0 | 3 | 7 | 13 | 37 | 3 |

FOOTBALL FEDERATION VICTORIA

*Goal! Weekly appreciates the support and financial assistance of FFV*


## State & Provi Round 11 Fixtures

All matches to be played on Saturday 25th June with 3pm KO unless otherwise stated.

**State NW 2**
**Altona City v Ballarat Red Devils**
*HC Kim Reserve*
**FC Clifton Hill v Altona East Phoenix**
*Kevin Bartlett Reserve*
**Moreland City v Whittlesea Ranges FC**
*Campbell Reserve*
**Werribee City v Geelong**
*Galvin Park Reserve*
**Williamstown v Banyule City**
*JT Gray Reserve*
**Westgate v Brunswick City**
*Ardeer Reserve 25 Jun 11 7:00PM*

**State SE 2**
**Dandenong City v South Springvale**
*Frank Holohan Soccer Field*
**Diamond Valley Utd v Eastern Lions**
*Partington Flats*
**Heatherton Utd v Noble Park Utd**
*Bosnia & Herzegovina Centre*
**Knox City v Casey Comets**
*Egan Lee Reserve*
**Morwell Pegasus v Doncaster Rovers**
*Ronald Reserve*
**Malvern City v Box Hill United**
*Kooyong Reserve No. 3*

**State NW 3**
**Avondale Heights v Whittlesea Utd**
*Doyle Street Reserve*
**Geelong Rangers v Hume Utd**
*Myers Reserve*
**La Trobe University v Keilor Park**
*Latrobe Uni Lower Playing Field*
**Maribyrnong Greens v Melbourne University**
*Skinner Reserve*
**Sydenham Park v Cairnlea**
*Keilor Lodge Reserve*
**Yarraville Glory v Sunbury Utd**
*McIvor Reserve*

**State SE 3**
**Doveton v Frankston Pines**
*Waratah Reserve*
**Fitzroy City v Old Scotch**
*Fairfield Park*
**Peninsula Strikers v Mornington**
*Centenary Park*
**Nunawading City FC v Croydon City Arrows**
*Mahoneys Road Reserve*
**Waverley Wanderers v Berwick City**
*Carlson Avenue Reserve*
**Kingston City v North Caulfield**
*The Grange Reserve Mon 27 Jun 11 8:30PM*

**Provi NW 1**
**Corio v Laverton Park**
*Hume Reserve, Geelong*
**FC Strathmore v Northern Falcons**
*Strathnaver Reserve*
**North City Lions v Surf Coast**
*Wallace Reserve*
**North Sunshine Eagles v Western Eagles**
*Larissa Reserve*
**Westvale v Essendon Utd**
*McKechnie Reserve*
**Sporting Whittlesea FC v South Yarra**
*RGC Cook Reserve.*

**Provi SE 1**
**Hampton Park United Sparrows v Beaumaris**
*KM Reedy Reserve*
**Lyndale Utd v Brandon Park**
*Lyndale Secondary College*
**Monash University v Springvale City**
*Monash University*
**Old Camberwell Grammar v Warragul Utd**
*Deepdene Park*
**Old Melburnians v Mooroolbark**
*Robert Menzies Reserve*
**Sandringham SC v Skye Utd**
*Spring St Oval*

**Provi NW 2**
**Epping City v Elwood City**
*Duffy Street Reserve*
**Melbourne City v Plenty Valley Lions**
*Edwards Reserve*
**Melbourne Tornado v Hoppers Crossing**
*Newmarket Reserve*
**Moreland Utd v Upfield**
*Moomba Park Reserve*
**West Preston v Bell Park**
*Oulton Reserve*
**Northern Roosters v Lalor Utd**
*Gibb Reserve*

**Provi SE 2**
**Riversdale v Uni. of Melbourne**
*Frog Hollow Reserve*
**Ashburton United v Monbulk**
*Ashburton Park*
**Boroondara Eagles v Bayside**
*Argonauts Macleay Park*
**Endeavour Utd v Casey Kings**
*Reema Reserve*
**Caulfield United Cobras SC v Old Carey**
*Victory Park*
**Seaford Utd v Keysborough**
*North Seaford Reserve*

**Provi NW 3**
**Darebin Utd v Brimbank Stallions**
*Mayer Park*
**Mill Park v Melton Phoenix FC**
*Findon Reserve*
**Watsonia Heights v Heidelberg Stars**
*Gabonia Reserve*
**Youth Utd v Meadow Park Eagles**
*Seth Raistrick Reserve*
**Moreland Wolves v Balmoral FC**
*Reddish Reserve*
**Brunswick Zebras v Essendon Royals**
*Sumner Park*

**Provi SE 3**
**East Bentleigh v Baxter**
*Bailey Reserve*
**Whitehorse Utd v Rowville Eagles**
*Terrara Park*
**White Star Dandenong v Noble Park**
*Greaves Reserve*
**Old Brighton Gramm v Old Trinity Gramm**
*Dendy Park*
**Middle Park FC v Collingwood City**
*Albert Park Field 16*
**Eltham Redbacks FC v Brighton**
*Eltham North Reserve Sat 25 Jun 11 7:00PM*

Action from Dandenong City's 1-0 victory over Noble Park in State 2 SE. Photos: ANITA MILAS



# Middle Park maintains the only 100% record

By Michal Skrodsky

**Well Rocky lovers, it's been a chilly out in suburban Victoria but the brave souls of Victorian football were out in voice supporting their beloved clubs. This reporter will go through the most important results, hand picked for your reading pleasure. Let's get started!**

Ivan Gelemanovic slides in for the ball deflecting it from Nemanja Samardzic's intended path. Photo: ROMY PAPAHARISIS

Goal for Dandenong thanks to a quick header by Ivan Klarica.

**State 2 NW** saw the mighty Moreland City lose at home to Brunswick City 1-2 in a result which shocked the world. This leaves the door wide open for Whittlesea Ranges to take top spot, they sit 2 points behind Moreland but have a catch up game vs Williamstown yet to be played.

**State 2 SE** has Dandenong City sitting pretty on top. Dandenong City won on the road in the huge grudge match derby at Noble Park 0-1. Dandenong City sit 6 points clear of second placed Eastern Lions (who drew 0-0 with Heatherton United) and the boys from Frank Holohan Reserve can almost smell State 1 this early on.

**State 3 NW** is all purple this week. Keilor Park also sit on top, a comfortable 6 points ahead of second placed Avondale Heights. This week the victims of the purple sting were Geelong Rangers who lost 2-4 at Keilor PArk.

**State 3 SE** has Mornington edge a little further ahead of the chasing pack. They sit on top by 3 points after a pulsating 4-1 victory over Doveton. Kingston City are in second but lost some ground on the Mornington men after a 2-2 at Berwick City.

**Provisional 1 NW** had some interesting results. Corio had a surprising 2-3 loss down at the Surf Coast. Though Corio remain on top by 3 points over South Yarra who split Strathmore by 5 goals to zip! North Sunshine inconsistant form continues, this week a huge 5-1 win at Northern Falcons. Will North Sunshine pull it together and start consistantly posting 3 points ? Only time will tell.

**Provisional 1 SE** had Warragul United drop down to 3rd place after a 0-1 loss at home to Sandringham. Beaumaris took advantage of the slip and are on top following a 4-0 win at Mooroolbark. The biggest result this week was at Ross Reserve, Springvale City smashed 9 past a hapless Lyndale United who only managed 2 in reply.

**Provisional 2 NW** has West Preston sitting on top. West Preston jumped Moreland United for top spot. West Preston got the points 1-2 at Hoppers Crossing while Moreland United couldn't stop Plenty Valley Lions and went down 0-2.

**Provisional 2 SE** is an absolute dog-fight, only 3 seperates the top 6. Bayside Argonauts sit on top but their lead was cut down after a disappointing 1-3 loss at home to Seaford United. The top six teams are Bayside Argonauts, Old Carey, Monbulk, Seaford United, Riversdale and Caulfield United. A further 3 points down and were down to 10th place. In this league every match is a 6-pointer, what a great league for the spectators!

**Provisional 3 NW** has Essendon Royals sitting on top on 23 points, 1 point less and you find Heidelberg Stars and a further 3 points down you'll find Brunswock Zebras and Moreland Wolves. Essendon played out a thrilling 4-4 draw with Moreland Wolves in this week's match of the week. Heidelberg United jumped Brunswick Zebras after these two teams met in battle with the Stars coming out on top 2-1.

**Provisional 3 SE** has the only team in the state of Victoria with a perfect 100% record left, 10 rounds in. That team is Middle Park, win number 10 was only after a hard fought 2-0 win at Brighton. Collingwood City is 9 wins from 10, this week they smashed last placed East Bentleigh 7-0. Next week games' don't get any bigger than Middle Park vs Collingwood ! These two teams have dominated their rivals, this game will definately be one for the ages.

Okay guys, that's it for this week. As always I encourage everyone to get down to their local club and cheer on their teams! Good luck to all lower league clubs next week, and remember: Keep eating the pudding!

CRUNCHALOR!

Tensions mount as noble park try to equalise with a disgruntled shove by Dandenong City's Sammy De Vito that knocked Noble Park's Goran Joceski off his feet.

Dandenong City leave happy with the 1-0 result

Goal for Dandenong thanks to a quick header by Ivan Klarica.

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# Fawkner And Pascoe Vale On The Move

**Round 10 of State League first division saw some very exciting matches with Pascoe Vale and Langwarrin providing plenty of goals and excitement at Lawton Park. North Geelong did themselves a huge favour taking all 3 points from their visit to Paisley Park, while Port Melbourne Sharks regained top spot with their win over Preston Lions. The Sharks will be hoping for a Bulleen win in their Monday night clash with Southern Stars in order to hold onto top spot. The Fawkner Blues and Pascoe Vale are quietly working their way up the ladder with both these sides showing great form. Fawkner's win over Western Suburbs was great value as was Pascoe Vale's win over the gallant Langwarrin. Whittlesea did well to take a point from their visit to Chaplin Reserve, while Sunshine George Cross is still waiting to win a home match this season.**

Sunshine Brendan Beni is thwarted by his Zebras Reg Davani. PHOTO: DANIEL FLIS

Sunshine Georgies rejoice after Ralph Napoli scored a screamer. PHOTO: DANIEL FLIS

SL1 action between Sunshine Georgies and Whittlesea Zebras. PHOTO: DANIEL FLIS

Brendan Beni flies in with team-mate and arms and legs in tow, but are unable to make a connection. Zebras new boy Stuart Nicholson braces himself. PHOTO: DANIEL FLIS

### DEADLY DUO STRIKE AGAIN
### PT MELBOURNE SHARKS 1
### PRESTON LIONS 0

The Nick Kalambokis and Niclas Ronne combination once again rose to the occasion to hand Port Melbourne all 3 points with a goal in the closing stages of this tense match. The match looked destined for a 0-0 draw until Niclas Ronne once again worked his magic in the 88th minute to set up goal scoring team mate Nick Kalambokis for the winning goal. It was sheer delight for the Sharks camp and very devastating for Preston, who on the night worked hard and were dealt a cruel blow. The visitors had the better of the first half, but were unable to find a break through. Port was no where near their best and made many elementary mistakes. They rarely threatened Preston's goal in a half the visitors controlled. The Sharks lifted their intensity after the break forcing the Lions on the defensive. Port had a lot of possession but found it difficult creating good goal scoring chances. It was Preston who had the best chance of the half with Port Melbourne's keeper Adam Hrehosin once again rescuing his side with a back peddling spectacular save. With time running out and both sides looking likely to share the points, Port's deadly duo found that little bit extra needed to give their team all 3 points.

### WARRIORS HAVE MAGIC SPELLBOUND
### ALTONA MAGIC 1
### NORTH GEELONG WARRIORS 2

North Geelong pulled off a surprise result when beating fellow struggler Altona Magic 2-1 at Paisley Park. It was North Geelong's first win since round 5 bringing to an end a run of four successive defeats. Altona Magic opened the scoring in this match after 20 minutes following a mix up at the back that presented an easy goal for the home team. North responded to this set back and applied pressure that saw them go in level at the break when Reha Karul scored right on the stroke of half time. The equalising goal was a boost for the visitors and this showed after the break with some enterprising play. The Warriors took a 2-1 lead at the 70 minute when new recruit Michael Anderson scored on his debut for his new club. Altona tried desperately to get back into the game but could not find a way through the determined North Geelong backline. The win lifts North off bottom place on the ladder and by doing so hands over this position to Altona Magic.

### THE BLUES FLYING HIGH
### FAWKNER BLUES 2
### WESTERN SUBURBS 0

The run towards to top continued for Fawkner Blues with this impressive 2-0 win over Western Suburbs at CB Smith Reserve. It didn't take long for Fawkner to open the scoring in this match as Robert Dolevski put the home team in front very early in the match. Fawkner dominated the rest of the half with some great play on the right flank that at times mesmerised the Suburbs defence. Suburbs did well to restrict the score to one goal. The Blues went 2-0 up very early in the second half when new recruit Josip Loncaric scored to virtually sealed the win for the Blues. Western Suburbs pulled out all stops in a bid to get back in the game and gave it a real go over the closing stages. Suburbs can take heart from their effort despite not being able to penetrate the resolute Fawkner defence. Fawkner's win keeps alive their promotion hopes and cement their place in the top four.

### PASCOE VALE HOME IN THRILLER
### LANGWARRIN 3
### PASCOE VALE 4

Supporters who made their way down to Lawton Park on Saturday afternoon were treated to a feast of goals as Langwarrin and Pascoe Vale turned on a 7 goal thriller.

The home side began like a house on fire and went 2-0 up in the opening 7 minutes. The home crowd was in raptures after only 4 minutes when Caleb Nicholes opened the scoring. The big striker further elated the home crowd 3 minutes later when he put Langwarrin 2-0 ahead. Things looked bleak for Pascoe Vale at this stage, but to their credit they steadied the ship and and began to look menacing with their brand of football. Pascoe Vale gave themselves a lifeline 4 minutes before the break when Adrian Talarico pulled a goal back. It was a bad time to concede a goal for Langwarrin, and it got worse for the home team 5 minutes into the second half, when the visitors were on level terms following a good goal scored by Liam Flynn. The fast open game continued to fluctuate with both sides coming close to scoring. The visitors shocked Langwarrin with another Liam Flynn goal as he put Pascoe Vale 3-2 ahead with only 10 minutes to go. Gus McLeod's side quickly answered his call to lift and were back on level terms 2 minutes later when Simon Mur scored to make it 3-3. The drama didn't end there, as Joseph Youssef scored again for Pascoe Vale's in the 87 minute to give his side a dramatic 4-3 win. It was a shame there had to be a winner and a loser in this game, because both teams gave their all, providing plenty of goals and entertainment, and it was hard for anyone not to get anything from the game.

### CROSS & ZEBRAS SHARE THE POINTS
### SUNSHINE GEORGE CROSS 1
### WHITTLESEA ZEBRAS 1

Sunshine George Cross held third placed Whittlesea Zebras to 1-1 draw at Chaplin Reserve on Sunday. It was a hard fought match with neither team taking a backward step as both sides tried to gain the ascendancy. Whittlesea started the better and opened the scoring with a sensational goal scored by Ralph Napoli who unleashed a tremendous drive from 25 metres that flew into the back of the net. The Georgies began to get on top from the 20 minute mark with their short passing game from midfield. Whittlesea on the other hand opted for the long ball game that rarely trouble the Cross defence, with Stuart Nicholson playing a lone hand up front for the Zebras. Nicholson did provide a good cross in the 40 minute that was fluffed by his team mate who shot over the bar from a good position. The Georgies came close to equalising right on the stroke of half time when Reginal Davani saw his shot strike the outside of the post. Neither team was able to master the blustery conditions in the opening 10 minutes of the second half. Davani came close to equalising for Sunshine with a long range shot that narrowly missed the target. The Georgies applied a lot of pressure in their pursuit of a goal and were given a lifeline when Arthur Tsonis as judged to have handled the ball in the penalty area in the 70th minute. Reg Davani stepped up to tie up the game much to the displeasure of the Whittlesea players. The Georgies went for the jugular in search of a second goal and came close with Barry Devlin's goal bound shot striking the head of a Whittlesea player for a corner kick. Reg Davani was causing the Whittlesea defence plenty of problems as he skipped past three Zebra defenders and setting up George Slefendorfas, who shot over the bar from close range. Whittlesea first attempt for the second half came after 77 minutes following a free kick that went just over the cross-bar. The Zebras came close to taking the lead in the 82 minute following a deep corner that was headed towards goal only to be cleared by the scrambling Georgie defence. At the other end an Eddie Soares free kick was scrambled away for a corner by Tsonis. The Zebras almost snatched the win with their best chance of the second half following a free kick that was headed over the bar by Simon Simeon. The point for Whittlesea keeps them in with a chance for promotion while for the Georgies it was another good point against one of the top 3 sides.

### FC BULLEEN LIONS
### SOUTHERN STARS

To be played on Monday night.

## SL1 RESULTS

Port Melbourne 1 (N Kalambokis)
Preston Lions 0

Altona Magic 1
North Geelong Warriors 2

Fawkner Blues 2
Western Suburbs 0

Langwarrin 3 (C Nicholes 2 S Mur)
Pascoe Vale 4 (A Talarico J Youssef L Flynn 2)

**U21s:**
Port Melbourne 1
Preston Lions 2

Altona Magic 1
North Geelong Warriors 2

Fawkner Blues 4
Western Suburbs 3

Langwarrin 1 Pascoe Vale 3

## SL1 LADDER

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Port Melbourne | 10 | 7 | 3 | 0 | 17 | 7 | 24 |
| Southern Stars | 09 | 7 | 1 | 1 | 17 | 9 | 22 |
| Whittlesea Z | 09 | 6 | 1 | 2 | 15 | 7 | 19 |
| Fawkner Blues | 10 | 6 | 0 | 4 | 15 | 7 | 18 |
| Pascoe Vale | 10 | 5 | 0 | 5 | 17 | 11 | 15 |
| Langwarrin | 10 | 3 | 2 | 5 | 15 | 20 | 11 |
| Western Sub | 10 | 3 | 2 | 5 | 11 | 18 | 11 |
| Preston Lions | 10 | 3 | 1 | 6 | 15 | 22 | 10 |
| North Geelong | 10 | 3 | 0 | 7 | 8 | 18 | 9 |
| Bulleen Lions | 09 | 2 | 2 | 5 | 7 | 9 | 8 |
| Altona Magic | 10 | 3 | 2 | 5 | 11 | 14 | 8 |
| Sun George X | 09 | 2 | 2 | 5 | 9 | 15 | 8 |

## SL1 Next Round

**Nth Geelong Warriors v Bulleen Lions**
*Elcho Park*
*Fri 24 Jun KO 8:30PM*

**Pascoe Vale v Port Melbourne**
*Hosken Reserve*
*Sat 25 Jun KO 3:00PM*

**Whittlesea Zebras v Fawkner Blues**
*Epping Soccer Stadium*
*Sun 26 Jun KO 3PM*

**Preston Lions v Sunshine George Cross**
*BT Connor Reserve*
*Sun 26 Jun KO 3:00PM*

**Western Suburbs v Altona Magic**
*Ralph Reserve*
*Sun 26 Jun KO 3:00PM*

**Southern Stars v Langwarrin**
*Kingston Heath*
*Sat 3 Sep KO 7:00PM*

## SL1 U21 LADDER

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Bulleen Lions | 09 | 7 | 0 | 2 | 34 | 12 | 21 |
| Western Sub | 10 | 7 | 0 | 3 | 25 | 23 | 21 |
| Fawkner Blues | 10 | 6 | 2 | 2 | 28 | 18 | 20 |
| Langwarrin | 10 | 6 | 0 | 4 | 20 | 16 | 18 |
| Whittlesea Z | 09 | 5 | 1 | 3 | 21 | 18 | 16 |
| Pascoe Vale | 10 | 5 | 1 | 4 | 25 | 24 | 16 |
| Southern Stars | 09 | 5 | 1 | 3 | 23 | 23 | 16 |
| North Geelong | 10 | 4 | 1 | 5 | 17 | 15 | 13 |
| Port Melbourne | 10 | 2 | 2 | 6 | 14 | 23 | 8 |
| Preston Lions | 10 | 2 | 1 | 7 | 17 | 30 | 7 |
| Sun George X | 09 | 1 | 2 | 6 | 19 | 31 | 5 |
| Altona Magic | 10 | 1 | 3 | 6 | 14 | 24 | 3 |

# V-LEAGUE

## NIKE PREMIERSHIP

### Round Seven

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# New Stars are born in Round 7

By Matthew Montgomery

**Metropolitan FC v FC Essendon**

Unfortunately, the blockbuster clash between old rivals, Metropolitan and Essendon could not take place as the first game to open round 7 of the NIKE V-League. Due to the fact that both sides were unable to call on their regular squad members, the much anticipated clash will be re-scheduled to be played on a Sunday night in the next 3-4 weeks. So hopefully by then both sides will be at full strength and we can see the likes of Metro's Alija Redzepovic and Essendon's Alexander Stevanovic go head to head as they battle for the top goal scorer award and the coveted NIKE V-League title.

**Fitzroy FC v FC Prahran (6-5)**

By default, the first clash of the night saw 5th placed Fitzroy FC take on FC Prahran in 7th. It was a game that everyone was looking forward to, as Fitzroy were out to reclaim their position in the top 4 – after losing fourth place to CF Brunswick last week – and Prahran, one of the most talented squads in the NIKE V-League, had come off a miraculous performance against Pascoe Vale in their Round 6 3-3 draw. Both sides were unchanged from last week, but Fitzroy were still without striker Haider Noor for the second straight game in a row. The first half started off with a bang for the 'Roys' as striker Cameron Holmes made a swift run from defence to slot the ball cooly past Michael Chami and open the scoring. Both sides continued to battle for possession as Prahran gave their all to get back into the contest, and they got their reward as defender Clint Mogoai creeped forward to find Ernie Simsek un-marked at the back post for an easy tap-in. But from that point on, as Coldplay frontman Chris Martin sang: "It was all Yellow". Cameron Holmes was off the leash as he bagged all four goals for the half and gave his side a comfy lead going into the break. The three points seemed to be going the way of the Fitzroy boys as Prahran were yet to give a yelp, but in the second half, leading by example, talisman and captain of the side in Maxi Avram answered the call to score a much needed hat-trick – including a stunning free-kick – to level the game. But just as the momentum was swinging in Prahran's favour, Fitzroy were awarded with a penalty, in which first half hero, Holmes, stepped up to the spot to claim his fifth goal and the lead for his side. Roys captain Hamid Hassanikhoo then put the result beyond Prahran's reach as he toe-poked Fitzroy's 7th. Then, with seconds remaining, striker Ben Armstrong was found un-marked (and underestimated) in the "D" by Ahmed Muktar's side ball to reduce the deficit and complete the scoring at 6-5 in Fitzroy's favour. It was yet another disappointing performance from Prahran who had seemed to hit their straps as they drew with the current champs last week, but as they stand now, 7 points from 7 games just isn't good enough. A stern test awaits next round as they face the might of Metropolitan next week. As for Fitzroy, their stock continues to grow, as they go from strength to strength.

**North Melbourne FC v CF Brunswick (7-3)**

Facing CF Brunswick was not the ideal game for the North boys to try to retain their their number 1 status, but when you are the top ranked team, everyone is out to get you. Brunswick, who are still riding their high of breaking into the top four for the first time, came into the match with a similar squad which disposed of Hume last week, minus Ignat Filipovic. North Melbourne, as always were un-changed. The first half was a tightly contested affair, but it was Jonathan Barrientos's free-kick that showed North's intent of claiming all three points. The game was barely five minutes old when Barrientos opened the scoring. The next two goals also went the way of the 'dark blues' in which defender, Adam Cooper, was a major influence. A darting run and shot down the right side by Cooper forced the save from Brunswick keeper, Brendan Chen - who was only able to parry – which then fell for Mirza Pedic to tap in. Cooper then claimed a goal of his own as he slotted his shot over Chen from an amazing angle. By this stage, North were well on top and Brunswick looked shell-shocked on the big stage, but that was until mercurial striker, Munya Nyadzayo scored two individual goals that reduced the deficit. With Brunswick now feeling like they were finally apart of the game, Mike Sharples stood up to score the last goal of the half and level the game. A very positive sign (the comeback) from Brunswick as the strive to prove the the league that they're the real deal. The second half saw North come-back in a big way as they were able to shut Brunswick's strike-force out and keep a clean sheet. Maintaining possession and utilising their 'big stage' experience, North were able to claim the next four goals as playmaker Tiago Priori and Alex Jankovic both added two goals each to complete the 7-3 scoreline. They weren't brilliant goals, but North were just able to expose the Brunswick defence as they seemed to fall asleep on occasions. Brunswick, who have a Futsalroo at their disposal in Danny Ngaluafe, need him to not worry about the organisation of his side and focus on what he does best. His return of 3 goals in 4 games is not at a standard of a player of Ngaluafe's calibre. As for North Melbourne, they have come along nicely, 64 goals is the most scored by any team – 46 the next largest – are now the in-form side of the league and are frothing at the mouth to take on Pascoe Vale in Round 11.

**Ashburton FC v Albert Park FC (7-6)**

It was a clash that was always going to produce a large amount of goals as the two sides who had conceded the most amount of goals (Ashburton: 56 and Albert Park: 55) took to the pitch. But where the sides differed was in the amount of players that were available. Albert Park had a full squad of 9 players, including the re-call of defender Chris Yang, David Straniero and debutant Douglas Mendez. Ashburton on the other hand had a squad of 6, with another new player in former FC Geelong playmaker Ravel Tavares. Yet still no 'key' defender. The first half was a goal-fest as both sides couldn't stop scoring, it was goal for goal early on. Ashburton's 'mercurial one' James Blackburn had his brace cancelled out by two well taken singles from Straniero, who scored from halfway, and Theo Ioanidis. Ashburton had thought they had pulled away from their 11th ranked opponents when a Mark Burton back-heel and Dima Nichforenco brace made the score 5-3, only for Albert Park captain, Jason Ioanidis, to step up and score two quick goals and level the tie. Just before the half-time whistle, Blackburn again bobbed up to claim the lead. Something he has done so often in the past! With 11 goals coming from the first half alone, both side took it upon themselves to play a much tighter brand of Futsal. This resulted in only one goal being scored for each side. James Danos equalised almost immediately after the kick-off to level the game, only for James Blackburn to restore the lead with his 4th of the game and 16th of the season. The 7-6 scoreline was to remain unchanged until the final whistle blew for Ashburton's second win of the season. Albert Park, with a plethora of players, need to figure out who are integral to their development and future as they will be un-able to achieve a settled squad, also their better players need more time on the pitch. It was a 'get out of jail' game for Ashburton who need to stop leaking goals if they are to survive in the toughest NIKE V-League season yet!

**FC Balwyn v Pascoe Vale FC (2-4)**

Looking at the fixture between undefeated current champions, Pascoe Vale and winless Balwyn, one would not give the newly promoted side a snowball's chance in hell of getting a result of any kind against the V-Leagues most successful side. But Balwyn manager Matty Obeid thought otherwise. After a season defining -and heartbreaking- loss to fellow cellar dwellers FC Melbourne last week, Obeid still maintained faith in his boys as no one was dropped from his squad. Also the addition of team top scorer, Jason Barrientos brought a smile to all of those in white. Pascoe Vale remained un-changed. Balwyn were never going to out-score Pascoe Vale, so it was no surprise when Balwyn played all four players behind the half-way line and try to get their chance on the counter-attack. Balwyn defenders, Ben Bodo and Tony Saric were combining well, and keeper Mario Roza arguably had his best game this season. You could tell it wasn't going to be an easy night for the black and whites, and their task became even harder when – very surprisingly - they went 2-0 down at half time with goals from Bodo and Barrientos. So for the second week running, Pascoe Vale were under the pump from lesser opposition and seemed to be struggling. Balwyn held the 'vales' scoreless for 31 minutes, a mighty fine effort from the bottom side! But after captain Andre Caro got their first, the Pascoe Vale sleeping giant awoke and they scored the next 3 goals to take a 4-2 win. And yet again it was the forward combination of Caro and Joao Da Silva who got them over the line as they bagged a brace each. With the exception of Ahmed Azzam, more needs to be done from the other members of the team, especially Marucio Novak who has gone missing in many matches. It was an outstanding performance from Balwyn, but it makes you wonder... where was this desperation, belief and determination against Melbourne last week? There is still hope of survival!

**Hume FC v FC Melbourne (6-3)**

The last clash of the night saw 8th placed Hume challenge a hardened and determined Melbourne in 9th. Melbourne who are still riding the high of claiming their second win of the season will like their chances of getting a result against a Hume side which has put together some indifferent performances of late. Although, Hume regain influential defender Resit Culculoglu and Nejdet Sahin, but lose their number 1 keeper in Con Makris, whereas Melbourne also lose the services of their regular keeper Ralph Ruz, but regain striker David Fletcher. The first half was a gritty affair as Melbourne and Hume preferred to put all their men behind the ball and focus more on defending, but it was Hume who scored first through in-form striker Turhan Sumbol with a trademark long range rifle past raw keeper Dan Rizio. Melbourne had chances to equalise through Fabiano De Britto and Elias Stavridis, but their efforts were halted by the post. It was a case of what could have been as Hume defender Resit Culculoglu doubled their lead before the break, pouncing on a poor pass in the Melbourne defence by Andrew Skoullos. The second half saw Melbourne score first through Elias Stavridis to make it 2-1 and keep the 'dark-blues' hopes alive. But those hopes were quickly shattered as Hume piled on four un-answered goals. Alex Husseini and Moe Tankir added singles, while Turhan Sumbol scored twice to complete his hat-trick – his third of the season. Then just when you though Melbourne were down and out, they bit back, just as they have done in every match they have played in this season. The last 10 minutes of the game was completely owned by Melbourne as they scored two through Skoullos and De Britto – to make it 6-3 – and then were awarded two penalties in which De Britto and Fletcher could not convert. Not no mention De Britto's open goal missed chance! Melbourne certainly had their chances to draw, or even win the match! But Hume were too determined and hung on to claim their third win of the season. The inclusion of defenders Nejdet Sahin and Resit Culculoglu was key to Hume's win and manager Amin Keddad should do his best to retain their services week in – week out.

Fitzroy FC's Cameron Holmes (L) who starred with 5 goals and Shayan Rashidi (R) man the wall in their sides impressive win over Prahran.

Ashburton's talisman, James Blackburn shoots to the top of the goal-scorers table with 4 classic goals against Albert Park.

North Melbourne's Adam Cooper (R) is fast becoming one of the leagues most dangerous players as he starred in his sides demolition of top four rivals Brunswick.

Melbourne's David Fletcher (R) pressures Hume's Moe Tankir (L) for the ball in what ended up as a very close encounter.

## V-League Standings

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | GD | Pts |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 Nth Melbourne FC | 7 | 6 | 1 | 0 | 64 | 29 | 35 | 19 |
| 2 Pascoe Vale FC | 7 | 6 | 1 | 0 | 42 | 19 | 23 | 19 |
| 3 Fitzroy FC | 7 | 5 | 0 | 2 | 43 | 30 | 13 | 15 |
| 4 Metropolitan FC | 6 | 5 | 0 | 1 | 46 | 38 | 8 | 15 |
| 5 CF Brunswick | 7 | 4 | 0 | 3 | 41 | 33 | 8 | 12 |
| 6 Hume FC | 7 | 3 | 0 | 4 | 38 | 40 | -2 | 9 |
| 7 FC Essendon | 6 | 3 | 0 | 3 | 37 | 49 | -12 | 9 |
| 8 FC Prahran | 7 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 42 | 41 | 1 | 7 |
| 9 Ashburton FC | 7 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 41 | 56 | -15 | 7 |
| 10 FC Melbourne | 7 | 2 | 0 | 5 | 23 | 39 | -16 | 6 |
| 11 Albert Park FC | 7 | 1 | 0 | 6 | 31 | 55 | -24 | 3 |
| 12 FC Balwyn | 7 | 0 | 0 | 7 | 23 | 42 | -19 | 0 |

## NIKE V-LEAGUE RESULTS Round 7 Wed June 15th

| | |
|---|---|
| ·6:30 Metropolitan FC v FC Essendon | P - P |
| ·7:15 Fitzroy FC v FC Prahran | 6 – 5 |
| ·8:00 Nth Melbourne v CF Brunswick | 7 – 3 |
| ·8:45 Albert Park FC v Ashburton FC | 6 – 7 |
| ·9:30 FC Balwyn v Pascoe Vale FC | 2 – 4 |
| ·10:15 Hume FC v FC Melbourne | 6 – 3 |

## NIKE V-LEAGUE ROUND 8 Wed June 22nd

- 6:30 Nth Melbourne FC v FC Melbourne
- 7:15 Albert Park FC v FC Essendon
- 8:00 Metropolitan FC v FC Prahran
- 8:45 Fitzroy FC v Pascoe Vale FC
- 9:30 Hume FC v FC Balwyn
- 10:15 Ashburton FC v CF Brunswick

## NIKE V-LEAGUE Top Goal Scorers

| | |
|---|---|
| 1. J. Blackburn AFC | 16 Goals |
| 2. A. Redzepovic MetroFC | 15 Goals |
| 3. T. Sumbol HFC | 14 Goals |
| 4. C. Holmes FFC | 14 Goals |
| 5. M. Avram FCP | 14 Goals |

Photos By MATT MONTGOMERY & THEO SOUFIS

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# 'Bergers Blast Past Thunder

| HEIDELBERG UNITED | 3 |
|---|---|
| DANDENONG THUINDER | 1 |

**Match Details**

**Heidelberg United Line-Up:**
McMaster – Hailemelkot, Elvin, Byles, Martin – Armenian, Travis (McIlroy 75'), Christodoulou, Doumbalis – Aleksovski (Alilovic 85'), Ederaro
Substitutes: Koutsodontis (GK), Nabbout, Tancevski

Goals: Aleksovski 34', 54'; Ederaro 65'
Yellow Cards: Christodoulou

**Dandenong Thunder Line-Up:**
Stuart Webster – Barnes, Rexhepi, Gray, Harrison – Tomic, Taylor, Scott Webster, Theodore – Kearney, Scott
Substitutes: Sherbon, Sadikovski, Azizi, Ukalic, Sabarovski

Goal: Scott (pen.) 64'
Yellow Cards: Harrison, Kearney

Player of the Match: Evan Christodoulou (Heidelberg United)

Crowd: approx. 1100 at the Olympic Village

By John Fotinos

**Heidelberg United has convincingly defeated Dandenong Thunder 3-1 in Sunday afternoon's Round 16 action of the Alanic VPL at the Olympic Village.**

With player of the match Evan Christodoulou pulling the strings in a sublime performance, ably supported by midfield partner Nick Travis, strikers Saso Aleksovski with two goals, and Osagie Ederaro with the third, were given plenty of opportunities to torment an overworked Dandenong defence.

In a game played in cool & fine conditions, Heidelberg United, aided by a strong northerly breeze, signalled its intentions from the start. After just four minutes, a neat interchange of passes between Aleksovski & Ederaro saw the former's shot miss narrowly with Dandenong's Webster beaten. Just two minutes later, Aleksovski was again on hand to shoot, this time forcing Webster to make a well-judged save. With the home side on top, and forcing the pace, Aleksovski again shot narrowly wide after twenty minutes following a scramble in the box saw team-mate Les Doumbalis play the ball to the striker.

The opening goal of the game after 34 minutes of play seemed somewhat inevitable, given Heidelberg's territorial dominance. Following a strong run on the right by Travis, his partially cleared cross fell obligingly to Aleksovski was on hand to shoot home a low shot past Webster to give the home side a deserved 1-0 lead.

Despite spending much of the first half on the back foot, Dandenong almost fashioned an equaliser on the stroke of half time, when Jarryd Barnes shot just wide of McMaster's upright following some good work on the left by the lively Liam Kearney.

Immediately after the main break, Dandenong seemed to pick up where they left off in the first half, and look to put Heidelberg under some sustained pressure. However, it was Heidelberg's Hamlet Armenian who missed a real chance to give his side a two goal lead, when the ex-Thunder winger shot well over on 50 minutes. Armenian, however, played a role in Heidelberg's second goal just four minutes later, when his volley across the goal mouth following a far post cross by Ederaro found an unmarked Aleksovski, who duly stabbed the ball home.

Just after the hour mark, Heidelberg nearly scrambled in a third goal, but with the Dandenong defence under siege, the ball was smuggled clear by a desperate Steven Gray. Just two minutes later, Ashley Scott won a penalty for Dandenong, after his clever turn in the box saw him clumsily fouled by Heidelberg defender Yared Hailemelkot. The Dandenong striker calmly slotted home the resultant spot kick to give his team some hope of salvaging a result, bringing the score back to 2-1 to Heidelberg.

From the kick off, Luke Byles played in Saso Aleksovki on the left, and the wily striker shook off his marker & found space to pick out fellow striker Edreraro with an accurate cross. The latter had a relatively easy task in heading home the goal to immediately restore Heidelberg's two goal buffer.

The remainder of the game saw Heidelberg retain the ascendancy, although Dandenong tried to up the tempo, with Tomic forcing McMaster into a fine save following a strong run and shot with 10 minutes left on the clock. Heidelberg's Armenian nearly provided the proverbial exclamation point for Heidelberg when his rasping shot in injury time flashed inches wide of a grasping Webster.

With the emphatic win, Heidelberg maintains its fourth spot on the table, whereas the loss confines Dandenong to an uncharacteristic eighth spot, albeit just two points outside the top five. Dandenong host seventh-placed Northcote City next Saturday night at George Andrews Reserve, in what looms as a pivotal match for both clubs' finals aspirations. Meanwhile, Heidelberg travel to Jack Edwards Reserve next Friday to take on second-placed Oakleigh Cannons in what shapes as another mouth-watering contest.

In the U/21's fixture, Heidelberg United defeated Dandenong Thunder 3-2.

Nick Travis (left) and Chris Taylor battle it out in midfield. Photo: JOHN PUNSHON

Having just taken a 2-0 lead through Sas Aleksovski, why wouldn't the Bergers be happy? Photo: JOHN PUNSHON

Ashley Stott tries to escape the close marking of Craig Elvin, Yared Hailemelekot backs up his skipper. Photo: JOHN PUNSHON

# Sanders Hat-Trick Keeps Gully In The Hunt

| GREEN GULLY CAVALIERS | 4 |
|---|---|
| RICHMOND EAGLES | 2 |

**Match Details**

**Green Gully:** 1. Nikola Roganovic, 2. Daniel Jones, 4. Cameron Drake, 6. Stephen Downes, 7. Jeffrey Fleming, 8. Jason Hayne, 10. Graham Hockless, 12. Mathew Sanders (Hamid Basma 85') 16. Mile Medjedovic, 17. Andy Vargas (Brent Fisher 79') 19. Johanthon Munoz.

Subs: 23. Mason Interlandi, 9. Brent Fisher, 11. Pasquale Vizzari, 15. Hamid Basma, 20. Joshua Pugh.

Goals: Mathew Sanders 19' 28' 69', Jason Hayne 92'
Yellow Cards: None
Red Cards: None

**Richmond Eagles:** 1. Stjepan Gal, 3. Erhan Karahan, 4. Ross Antoniadis, 5. Mitch Bissinger, 6. Dimltri Tsiaris (Eterovic 83') 8. Scott Muirhead, 10. Nick Marinos, 12. Devon Bonne (Catalano 75') 13. Antun Kovacic, 16. Stuart Wilson (Purcell 55') 18. Michael Ferrante.

Subs: 2. Andrew Viola, 7. Timmy Purcell, 9. Michael Catalano, 11. Mate Eterovic, 20. Robbie Simioni.

Goals: Michael Ferrante 60', Kovacic 71'
Yellow Cards: Karaha, Marinos
Red Cards: None

By David Manuca

**Green Gully Cavaliers continued their surge towards a Top-5 finish with a thrilling 4-2 win over Richmond at Green Gully Reserve on Saturday afternoon.**

Mathew Sanders scored two goals in the first-half before Michael Ferrante brought Richmond back in the contest with a brilliant free-kick on the hour mark.

Sanders then restored the Cavaliers two-goal advantage ten minutes but Antun Kovacic brought it back to one goal only a minute later.

But Jason Hayne stepped up in injury-time to seal the three points for Gully with the win moving them into the top-five on the Victorian Premier League ladder.

It was Sanders first ever hattrick for Green Gully with the front-man in stunning form as of late with six goals in his past five matches.

The win also means that Green Gully are still undefeated in their past nine matches with the finals firmly in their sights.

Richmond however is still rooted to the bottom half of the table and it will take a miracle for them to have a chance of appearing in the Grand Final for a second successive season.

Green Gully manager Lubo Lapsansky made only one change to his squad that defeated St. Albans a fortnight ago with Andy Vargas given a starting place ahead of Brent Fisher.

Richmond's new striker Nick Marinos was given his first start with Stuart Wilson also joining him in the starting line-up in place of Timmy Purcell and Michael Catalano who started on the bench.

The first twenty minutes of the contest was a fair contrast of the rest of the match with both sides finding it difficult to break down each others defence.

Mathew Sanders opened the scoring on twenty minutes with an easy tap-in after Graham Hockless played a succulent through ball to Jason Hayne with the New Zealander cutting the ball back to Sanders on the edge of the six-yard box for his first of the afternoon.

Daniel Jones had a glorious opportunity to double Green Gully's advantage two minutes later but he tapped his shot over the bar after another fantastic cut-back from Hayne from the right flank.

But Gully did find a second on 28 minutes from their goal-machine Mathew Sanders. Andy Vargas played in a low cross to Graham Hockless with the midfielders first time shot deflected onto the post by Erhan Karahan but the rebound fell straight to Sanders who smashed the ball home past a stranded Stjepan Gal.

Green Gully continued to dominate for the rest of the half with Hockless, Fleming and Downes combining well in the centre of the park.

Richmond came out of the break a different looking outfit and created two fantastic chances in the opening stages of the second period.

Devon Bonne had a shot scrape just wide of the left post before Nick Marinos had a strike brilliantly saved by Nikola Roganovic at his near-post.

And after their intense pressure Richmond did eventually find a goal on the hour-mark thanks to Michael Ferrante.

Matthew Sanders continues his red-hot form of late and spearheads Gully's surge up the AVPL standings.Photo: STEVE STAREK

Mile Medjedovic was pinned for handball 25 yards out from his goal and Ferrante stepped up to the free-kick and curled a wonderful strike over the wall and past Roganovic.

But it wasn't long until Green Gully restored their two-goal advantage with Sanders netting his hattrick ten minutes later.

Andy Vargas was played into space in the area by Jason Hayne and he took a shot from a tight angle which was initially saved by Gal but Sanders was in the right place at the right time to head the ball into the net from close range.

But Richmond pulled one back just a minute later when big defender Antun Kovacic got a touch on Ferrante's long range free-kick to make it an enthralling last twenty minutes.

Richmond searched for an equalizer whilst Green Gully pushed for a goal to seal the three points and it was the Cavaliers who got the goal with Jason Hayne being played one-on-one with Gal and the winger went around the keeper before slotting home an easy goal to seal the win.

Green Gully travel to Broadmeadows Valley next week to take Hume City whilst Richmond welcomes Springvale White Eagles in what proves to be a huge game in the relegation battle.

Gully's Matthew Sander completes his hat-trick and gets to keep the ball after the match. Photo: STEVE STAREK

Agony and ecstasy: Matthew Sanders and Andy Vargas are ecstatic whilst Erhan Karahan disputes the goal to the officials. Photo: STEVE STAREK

Richmond's Antun Kovacic pulls one back for the visitors but the damage has already been done. Photo: STEVE STAREK

# Hume Cruise Over Hercules

| NORTHCOTE CITY | 2 |
|---|---|
| HUME CITY | 4 |

**Match Details**

**Northcote City:** 22 Chris Petropoulos, 2. Adriano Chiappetta, 3. Kristian Konstandinidis (16. Paul Savio 63'), 5. Nick Tzoulis (11. Harry Kinigopoulos 63'), 8. Nicholas Curtis, 9. Trent Rixon, 12. Hayden D'agostino, 13. Samuel Torrens, 17. Gianni De Nittis (15. Rodrigo Covarrubias 76'), 18. James Kalifatidis, 22. Chris Petropoulos, 23. Jason Trifiro.
Unused Subs: 1. Charles Treacy, 19. Dean Piemonte.
Scorers: James Kalifatidis 64' Jason Trifiro 87'
Yellow Cards: James Kalifatidis 52' Gianni De Nittis 63' Trent Rixon 72'

**Hume City:** 18. Kenny Geroh, 5. Steven Pace (3. Fabio Dilizia 74'), 6. Serdar Pir, 7. Isiyan Erdogan, 9. Pece Siveski, 10. Richie Cardozo, 11. Andrew Vlahos (4. Mark Pistininzi 61'), 12. Ross Thompson, 15. Zoran Petrevski, 20. Michael Bosevski, 25. Atilla Ofli (17. James Riccobene 81'). Unused Subs: 1. Evan Van Der Dyl, 21. Dusko Delic
Scorers: Atilla Ofli 2' Richie Cardozo 11' Pen Zoran Petrevski 15' 63'
Yellow Cards:

Man Of The Match: Zoran Petrevski
Venue: John Cain Memorial Park
Crowd: 400

By Tony Persoglia

**Hume City cruised to its ninth win of the season with an impressive first half display against a fast finishing Northcote City at John Cain Memorial Park on Saturday. In a breathtaking opening twenty minutes, the visitors scored three goals to effectively seal the contest, and consign the hosts to their third loss at home this season.**

The spectators were barely in their seats when Andy Vlahos delivered an inch perfect pass to Atilla Ofli, who scored with barely 90 seconds on the clock. It was the 17-year-old's fourth goal for the season, and the youngster has clearly benefited from the opportunity of playing alongside an array of experienced campaigners.

The Blue-and-Whites were keen to respond to the early strike, and Jason Trifiro had a chance from long range in the 7th minute, only to send his right foot strike high and wide of the goal. Zoran Petrevski had similar ideas for Hume barely a minute later, his shot delivered with more vigour, but achieving the same result.

James Kalifatidis was gifted a golden opportunity in the 9th minute, being put through on goal with only the keeper to beat, but Kenny Geroh was quick to react off his line and smothered the attempted shot from the in-form striker.

Still reeling from that guilt-edged chance, Hume countered almost immediately, with Richard Cardozo earning and converting a penalty in the 11th minute, taking his goals tally to 11, two clear of his nearest rivals and in sight of the Golden Boot with six rounds remaining.

Five minutes later, the match was all but confirmed, when Zoran Petrevski was able to contribute a contender for goal of the season, and put the visitors three goals to the good with a little over a quarter of an hour played.

In truth, the margin could have been even bigger at the half, if it were not for some clutch saves from Chris Petropoulos, who was kept busy by a multitude of penetrating balls from the Hume City midfielders.

The resumption of play witnessed a greater intensity from the Blue-and-Whites, and another great chance fell to Kalifatidis in the 56th minute, his ball control creating an opportunity on his left peg which sailed over the crossbar.

But just as Northcote appeared to gain the ascendancy in the run of play, it was Petrevski again who stepped up to extend the lead, scoring against the run of play after pouncing on a through ball and expertly rounding Petropoulos for the simplest of finishes.

Yet, even with a mountain to climb, Kalifatidis would not be denied his goal, and he finally gave the home fans something to cheer, when barely a minute later he beat Geroh with a right foot shot, and nabbed his fifth for the season.

A second would come for Northcote three minutes from time, Trifiro also snaring his fifth goal for the campaign after a well-taken effort amidst a wall of defenders.

The Blue-and-Whites finished strongly, and were denied a third in added time by referee Brenton Hayward, who called for a foul after Chiappetta found the back of the net.

For Hume, the result lifted them to top spot on goal difference ahead of the Cannons, while Northcote tumbled to seventh, overtaken by Bentleigh Greens and Green Gully who scored crucial wins on the weekend.

Northcote travel to Dandenong Thunder next Saturday night, for the first of that club's closed door matches, while Hume return home for what promises to be a thrilling encounter against Green Gully on Saturday afternoon.

Hume's Zoran Petrevski and Northcote City keeper Chris Petropoulos get themselves into an aerial spin. PHOTO: PETER PSARROS

Richie Cardozo was again on target and is now two goals clear for the Golden Boot

Hume's man of the match Zoran Petrevski rounds Chris Petropoulos to extend the lead once again and celebrates accordingly. Photo: PETER PSARROS

Hume player-coach Andy Vlahos comes under some close attention from Jason Trifiro. Photo: PETER PSARROS

# South Triumphs In Heated Battle

| SOUTH MELBOURNE | 1 |
|---|---|
| OAKLEIGH CANNONS | 0 |

**Match Details**

**South Melbourne:**
Zaim Zeneli, Tom Matthews, Steven O'Dor, Daniel Vasilevski, Steven Topalovic, Kliment Taseski, Trent Waterson, Marinos Gasparis (Carl Recchia), Kyle Joryeff (Daniel Dragicevic), Steven Weir, Junior Camargo (Fernando De Moraes)

Goal Scorer: Carl Recchia (55')

**Oakleigh:**
Peter Zois, Rama Tavsancioglu, Ricky Diaco, Luke Walker (Bill Damianos), James Cumming, James Robinson, Shaun Ontong, Hayden Doyle, Richard Offlong (Josh Groemewald), Ari Drakos, Frankie Lagana (Steve Hatzikostas)

Man of Match: Steven Weir (SM)
Venue: John Cain Reserve
Crowd: 1100

By John Kyrou

**South Melbourne FC has consolidated third spot on the Victorian Premier League table with a thoroughly deserved 1-0 victory over an extremely disappointing Oakleigh Cannons. Substitute Carl Recchia's early second half goal was enough to earn Eddie Krncevic's side all three points.**

The home side began strongly and had the Cannons on the back foot in the early stages. Kyle Joryeff linked well up forward with new signing Steven Weir, who made his League debut for South following his Singapore Cup appearance last weekend. Joryeff was unfortunately substituted at the half hour mark following a nasty cut on his forehead that was sustained earlier in the match. Weir had the best chance of the half when he slammed Steven Topalovic's cut-back ball just wide of Peter Zois' goal.

In the second half, Krncevic replaced Marinos Gasparis with Recchia and the move paid off straight away when from a free kick scramble managed to hook a shot over his body, past Zois and into the net to hand South a deserved lead.

The home side had several half chances to double their lead but a combination of lucky defending, good keeping by Zois and several offside calls kept the scoreline at 1-0. Oakleigh managed to muster one very good chance for themselves but on that occasion Ricky Diaco pulled his shot wide of Zaim Zeneli's goal.

Next weekend South travels to Somers Street to play the Melbourne Knights. Oakleigh hosts Heidelberg.

South rejoice after Carl Rechia scores. Photo:CINDY NITSOS

Kyle Joryeff cops a nasty gash in the head and is forced to leave the field. Photo:CINDY NITSOS

South Melobourne's new signing Steven Weir tangles with Oakleigh's Rama Tavsancioglu. Photo: CINDY NITSOS

Tempers boil over in the heated derby as Kyle Joryeff goes down, and South's Eddie Krncevic expresses his disapproval to the referee and Arthur Papas. Photo: CINDY NITSOS

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# Greens Hit Knights For Four

**BENTLEIGH GREENS** 4

**MELBOURNE KNIGHTS** 0

**Match Details**

**Bentleigh Greens:** P. Gavalas, C. Smart (B.Liolios 80'), M. Gwyther, S. Bulloch, J. Calderone, A. Rojas (R. De Vries 63'), A. Fadjevic (P. Georgiou 77'), A. Wilford, J. Webster L. Pilkington W. Wallace.

Not Used: L. Gavalas, D. Keogh.

Yellow Cards: M. Gwyther, A. Rojas, L. Pilkington, W. Wallace.

Goals: W. Wallace 38', S. Bulloch 61', R. De Vries 78', B. Liolios 86'.

**Melbourne Knights:** M. John, S. Romein, R. Filipovic, L. Shin, T. Uskok, J. Kozic, A. Colosimo, J. Franjic, M. Becket (R. Saglam 61'), J. Colosimo, M. Welmant (S. Alinejad 68').

Not Used: A. Romein, A. Zilic, C. Sweeney.

Yellow Cards: T. Uskok, J. Franjic.
Red Cards: S. Romein.

MoM: W. Wallace (BG)

Crowd: Approx 500 @ Kingston Heath.

By Andrew Fisher

**The Bentleigh Greens have returned back onto the winners list, and regained their place into the top five after a four goal home victory over the Melbourne Knights, at Kingston Heath reserve on Friday Night.**

Despite the lob-sided score line, the game was much more of a contest then the score line reveals, and the Knights fans will feel aggravated not to have taken something from this game, after controlling much of the first hour of the match.

The Knights began the match controlling much of possession and pinning the home side into their own defensive halve, but failed to create any meaningful chances in the first fifteen minutes. That was until a magnificent though ball from Captain Josip Kozic released Melvin Becket behind the Greens defence; a poor first touch from the youngster was enough for Gavalas to deny the opening goal to the Knights.

After impressive displays in the Mirabella Cup and against the VTC, young midfielder Joseph Franjic was rewarded with his first start in the first eleven, and after some decent build up play down the right flank Franjic delivered a telling ball that just eluded Jacob Colosimo in the penalty area.

The Knights could have taken a deserving lead in the 40th minute when Shaun Romein saw his header fly just over the bar from a Kozic free-kick. However as it has happened many times this season, the Knights found a way to concede late in the half and undo all their hard work. A free-kick was delivered into a crowded penalty area, and keeper Martin John elected to catch instead of punching resulting in the ball coming loose and falling to Wayne Wallace to knock the ball into an empty net.

Bentleigh now having the lead elected to sit back and absorb the Knights pressure in the second half as the visitors sort out an equaliser. Much like the first half the Knights controlled much of the possession but failed to truly test Gavalas in the home goal.

Ten minutes into the second half, Franjic picked out Becket unmarked at the far post, electing to control the ball with his chest the young striker again slightly mis-timed his first touch allowing the alert Gavalas to clear the danger.

Against the run of play the Greens hit the Knights on the break, with Scott Bulloch finding time and space on the left wing to move into the area and find the bottom corner of the net despite Martin John getting a firm hand on it.

To make matter worse for the visitor's just minutes later Shaun Romein was given his marching orders for a forceful challenge on Webster leaving the Knights to face the last 25mins with a player short.

Bentleigh took full advantage of their extra man with substitutes De Vries and Liolios both scoring late to give the Greens a goal difference boosting victory.

Next week Bentleigh will look to consolidate their top five positions when they face St Albans at Churchill reserve, whilst the Knights will face arch-rival South Melbourne at Knights Stadium.

Wayne Wallace celebrates after opening the scoring Photo: ANITA MILAS

Scott Bulloch hits the mark also and makes it 2-0. Photo: ANITA MILAS

Bentleigh's Ryan De Vries slides in to make it 3-0. Photo: ANITA MILAS

Knights' Shaun Romein (centre) sees red and is forced to take an early bath. Photo: ANITA MILAS

# Saints Finally Come Marching In!

**SPRINGVALE W EAGLES** 0

**ST ALBANS SAINTS** 2

**Match Details**

Springvale White Eagles 0 - St. Albans Saints 2 (9. Mathew Demo 11, 79).

**SWE:** 20. Scott Agustin, 4. Boris Bajic, 12. Dusan Nikolic, 5. Jason Corbett, 8. Gordan Mrdic, 9. Milos Lujic (21. Dejan Erakovic 55), 10. Declan Mahon (6. Gojko Ponjevic 89), 11. Colin Woods, 16. Dominic D'Angelo (24. Lewis Karanicolas 46), 17. Zoran Vukas, 19. Goran Zoric. Coach: Bojo Jevdjevic.
Unused subs: Bojo Jevdjevic (gk), 14. Paul Maghiar.
Yelow Cards: 5. Jason Corbett (77), 11. Colin Woods (46).

**St Albans Saints:** 20. Franjo Saric, 17. Luka Reardo, 13. Neven Antic, 23. Tomislav Milardovic, 19. Michael Grgic, 4. Maks Cuze, 8. Liam Cannell, 18. Stefan Piorkowski, 15. Louis Fenton, 10. Daniel Visevic (5. Brian Chesson), 9. Mathew Demo. Coach: Vinko Buljubasic.
Unused subs: Carlos Galicia (gk), 3. Anthony Themistokleous, 14. Luis Osorio, 32. Daniel Plovesan.
Yelow cards: 8. Liam Cannell (28), Maks Cuze (89)

Referee: Alex Lord. Venue: Serbian Sports Centre - Keysborough. Crowd: 500.

By Milan Ninovic

Saint Albans Saints has secured its second win of the season after defeating fellow relegation battler, Springvale White Eagles 2-0 at White Eagles Stadium on Sunday.

In a classic relegation six-pointer both teams were desperate for the win to provide some hope of avoiding the drop.

The visiting Saints seemed to take the ascendency early in the match and if they had taken their chances they could have won by a bigger margin.

After only two minutes of play, White Eagles' Milos Lujic have good chance to score but the Saints goalkeeper was equal to the task and block the shot almost on the goal line. Three minute later Dusan Nikolic put the ball in the back of the net for the Eagles but the referee Alex Lord disallowed the goal upon recommendation of his linesman who riased the flag for offside.

After 11 minutes, the home team failed to play the offside trap properly and Mathew Demo had no trouble but to score, with the ball in low far corner of the net and goalkeeper Scott Agustin could do nothing about it.

After 13 minutes St. Albans had another chance to score but Lois Fanton from only 5 metres headed ball over the crossbar.

With 17 minute on the clock Milos Lujic scored the another goal for the Eagles, but again the linesman raised the flag and another goal was disallowed.

Just after half-time and with 50 minutes into the match , two St. Albans players found themselves with only keeper to beat but Augustin did extremely well to blocked the shot and save a certain goal. Five minutes later again the pressure was piled on and the Eagles goalkeeper saved another shot from Fenton.

White Eagles hopes of salvaging something from the match was effectively wiped out in the 79th minute when Demo score his second goal of the afternoon when he receive a present from White Eagles newcomer Jason Corbett and had only the keeper to beat and seal the Saints' second win for the season.

With the league heading into the business end of the season it looks like these two team will be making a quick return to the First division come October.

St Albans' Matthew Demo easily guides the ball into the goals after the White Eagles goal keeper fumbles. Photo: ANITA MILAS

St Albans' Matthew Demo is well chuffed after breaking the deadlock. Photo: ANITA MILAS

St Albans' Daniel Visevic tangles for the ball. Photo: ANITA MILAS

## Alanic VPL Standings

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | PT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Hume City | 17 | 9 | 6 | 2 | 37 | 20 | 33 |
| Oakleigh Cannons | 18 | 10 | 3 | 5 | 34 | 25 | 33 |
| South Melbourne | 18 | 9 | 4 | 5 | 31 | 27 | 31 |
| Heidelberg Utd | 17 | 9 | 5 | 3 | 38 | 17 | 29 |
| Green Gully Cavaliers | 17 | 8 | 3 | 6 | 35 | 19 | 27 |
| Bentleigh Greens | 18 | 7 | 6 | 5 | 26 | 21 | 27 |
| Northcote City | 17 | 7 | 5 | 5 | 37 | 27 | 26 |
| Dandenong Thunder | 17 | 9 | 5 | 3 | 33 | 15 | 25 |
| Melbourne Knights | 18 | 4 | 7 | 7 | 27 | 25 | 18 |
| Richmond Eagles | 17 | 5 | 3 | 9 | 21 | 33 | 18 |
| Springvale White Eagles | 18 | 2 | 6 | 10 | 18 | 48 | 12 |
| VTC Football | 17 | 4 | 0 | 13 | 19 | 55 | 12 |
| St Albans Saints | 17 | 2 | 3 | 12 | 18 | 42 | 9 |

## Alanic VPL Round 17

Wed 22 Jun 8:30PM **St Albans Saints v N.T.C**

Fri 24 Jun 8:30PM **Oakleigh Cannons v Heidelberg Utd** Jack Edwards Reserve

Sat 25 Jun 3.00PM **Richmond Eagles v Springvale White Eagles** Kevin Bartlett Reserve

Sat 25 Jun 3:00PM **Hume City v Green Gully Cavaliers** Broadmeadows Valley Park

Sat 25 Jun 7:00PM **Dandenong Thunder v Northcote City** George Andrews Reserve

Sun 26 Jun 3:00PM **St Albans Saints v Bentleigh Greens** Churchill Reserve

Sun 26 Jun 3:00PM **Melbourne Knights v South Melbourne** Knights Stadium

## Under 21s

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | GD | Pt |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Melbourne Knights | 18 | 11 | 3 | 4 | 53 | 24 | 36 | |
| South Melbourne | 18 | 11 | 3 | 4 | 37 | 24 | 36 | |
| Hume City | 17 | 10 | 3 | 4 | 48 | 23 | 33 | |
| Oakleigh Cannons | 17 | 10 | 3 | 4 | 44 | 27 | 33 | |
| Heidelberg Utd | 16 | 8 | 3 | 5 | 34 | 27 | 27 | |
| Green Gully Cavaliers | 17 | 7 | 5 | 5 | 33 | 27 | 26 | |
| Richmond | 17 | 7 | 1 | 9 | 30 | 49 | 22 | |
| Dandenong Thunder | 17 | 6 | 3 | 8 | 32 | 34 | 21 | |
| Northcote City | 16 | 6 | 3 | 7 | 26 | 31 | 21 | |
| VTC Football | 16 | 6 | 1 | 9 | 33 | 43 | 19 | |
| Bentleigh Greens | 18 | 4 | 4 | 10 | 32 | 45 | 16 | |
| Springvale White Eagles | 18 | 5 | 1 | 12 | 28 | 57 | 16 | |
| St Albans Saints | 17 | 1 | 5 | 11 | 23 | 42 | 5 | |

**Bentleigh Greens 2**
**Melbourne Knights 3**

**Green Gully Cavaliers 1**
**Richmond 2**

**Northcote City 0 Hume City 5**

**South Melbourne 0 Oakleigh Cannons 1**

**Springvale White Eagles 4**
**St Albans Saints 1**

**Heidelberg Utd 3**
**Dandenong Thunder 2**

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